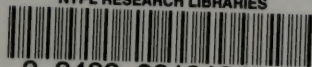


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# HISTORY OF CLAYTON COUNTY IOWA

FROM THE EARLIEST HISTORICAL  
TIMES DOWN TO THE PRESENT

INCLUDING A GENEALOGICAL AND BIO-  
GRAPHICAL RECORD OF MANY REPRESENTATIVE FAMILIES, PREPARED FROM  
DATA OBTAINED FROM ORIGINAL  
SOURCES OF INFORMATION

EDITED BY REALTO E. PRICE

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*IN TWO VOLUMES*  
*ILLUSTRATED*

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Sender 24 Nov. 1943









# HISTORY OF CLAYTON COUNTY

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## BIOGRAPHICAL

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**Charles S. Adams** has been for nearly thirty years one of the representative business men and popular and influential citizens of Volga, where he has been engaged in the general merchandise business since 1888, as senior member of the well-known and representative firm of Adams & White, in which his coadjutor is Edward W. White. He has been a resident of the Hawkeye state since he was a lad of six years and is a scion not only of one of the prominent and influential families of this commonwealth but also one that was founded in New England in the early colonial era of our national history. Mr. Adams was born in the city of Lowell, Massachusetts, on the 7th of May, 1851, and is a son of Captain Shubael P. and Lydia E. (Stetson) Adams, both likewise natives of the historic old Bay State, where the latter passed her entire life, her death having occurred in 1853, and the subject of this review being the younger of her two children; the older child, Mary, is now in San Francisco, Cal. Captain Adams was reared and educated in Massachusetts, where he became a successful representative of the legal profession and where he served as a member of the state legislature from 1845 to 1857. In the latter year he became one of the pioneer representatives of his profession in the city of Dubuque, Iowa, where he built up a practice that gave him distinction as one of the leading members of the bar of this state. He united with the Republican party at the time of its organization and was one of the most prominent and influential advocates of its principles and policies to be found in Iowa at the time of the climacteric period leading up to the Civil War. He was a specially forceful and effective stump speaker and did yeoman service in stumping Iowa in support of Abraham Lincoln when that great man became the Republican candidate for president of the United States. He gained his military title as provost marshal, Third Dist. Iowa, in the great conflict through which the integrity of the Union was perpetuated, and he was one of the venerable and honored pioneer members of the Iowa bar at the time of his death, which occurred in

1894. Charles S. Adams continued his studies in the public schools until he had completed the curriculum of the high school and supplemented this discipline by a course of higher study in Bayless College, at Dubuque. In 1872, shortly after attaining to his legal majority he entered railway service, in the employ of the C. D. & M. Railroad Company, now part of the C. M. & St. P. system, and for a period of sixteen years he was in active service as a skilled locomotive engineer. In 1888 he established his home at Volga, Clayton county, where he has been engaged in the general merchandise business during the long intervening years and where the high reputation of the firm of Adams & White has ever constituted its best commercial asset. Mr. Adams has been liberal and loyal in the supporting of those enterprises and measures that have contributed to the civic and material prosperity of the community, is a Republican, though never a seeker of political preferment. He served as a progressive and valued member of the board of education of Volga for the long period of twenty-six years and has otherwise been quietly but effectively influential in local affairs. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Modern Brotherhood of America. On the 12th of May, 1880, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Adams to Miss Emma E. Crain, who was born in this county on the 23d of May, 1861, and who is a daughter of James and Harriet Crain, who were born and reared in England and who became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa, where they established their home on a farm near Volga in the year 1854, both passing the remainder of their lives in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Adams became the parents of four children, of whom the first was Harriet, who was born July 8, 1881, and whose death occurred in the following month; William J., who was born November 2, 1882, was a student in U. I. University for four years and is now one of the principals in the Collier-Adams Manufacturing Company, at St. Joseph, Missouri; Shubael P., who was born June 18, 1885, was graduated in U. I. U., class '07, also in historic old Yale University, 1910, and he likewise is with the Collier-Adams Manufacturing Company, of St. Joseph, Mo.; and Edna, who was born September 30, 1889, was graduated in the Volga high school, after having made a record of twelve years' attendance in the village schools without a single mark of absence or tardiness: she was later in the Upper Iowa University and she is now at the parental home, a popular figure in the representative social life of the community.

**Albert Allen**, an automobile dealer of Elkader, is a native of the Hawkeye State, having been born in Clayton county, Iowa, September 20, 1872, and is a son of Hans and Annie (Olson) Allen, who came from Norway to America, locating in Clayton county, Iowa. Mr. Allen passed to the other life in the year 1896. They were the parents of twelve children, and eleven of them still survive. Albert Allen was reared on a farm, and after reaching young manhood, began the occupation of drilling wells with his brother, Ole, and then ran threshing machines through the harvesting season. In 1902 he went to Elkader, his brother, Ole, joining him a



year later, where they organized the firm of Allen Bros., which has grown to such large proportions that they have erected a building sixty by one hundred and twenty feet in size, and two stories in height, to house their machines. They deal specially in the Buick machine, but also handle the Oldsmobile and Cadillac automobiles. He is united in marriage with Nettie Hirsch, who was born in Clayton county, and three children, two sons and a daughter, have been born to them, Raymond, Alvin and Maurine. Mr. Allen is a Republican, though not particularly active in political work; he is affiliated with the Congregational church, and is a member of the fraternal order of Masons, and of the Modern Woodmen.

**S. C. Ainsworth, M. D.,** has secure vantage-place as one of the representative physicians and surgeons of Clayton county, where he has been engaged in the practice of his profession since 1901, with residence at Volga, from which village he controls a large and influential practice that extends throughout the splendid territory normally tributary to the village. The doctor is upholding most effectively the high prestige gained by his honored father in the medical profession, in which his success has been unequivocal and in connection with which he insistently carries forward the study and research that keep him in close touch with the advances made in medical and surgical science. Dr. Ainsworth was born in the city of Syracuse, New York, on the 6th of January, 1877, and is the elder of the two children of Dr. E. A. and Ellen (Stanton) Ainsworth, both of whom were born and reared in the state of New York. The younger of the two children is Fannie L., who is the wife of Charles W. Dickens, with whom she is successfully associated in the practice of law at West Union, the judicial center of Fayette county, Iowa, both having been graduated in the law department of the University of Iowa. Dr. Ainsworth of this review was about seven years old at the time when his parents came to Iowa and established their residence at West Union, Fayette county, in 1882. There his father continued in active practice as one of the leading physicians and surgeons of that section of the state, until 1914, since which time he has there lived virtually retired, though many of the families to which he long ministered with all of ability and unselfish devotion still insist upon having recourse to his counsel and professional attention. His cherished and devoted wife was summoned to eternal rest in 1903, secure in the affectionate regard of all who had come within the compass of her gentle and gracious influence. At West Union Dr. S. C. Ainsworth was reared to adult age and after profiting duly by the advantages afforded in the public schools, including the high school, he became imbued with the earnest ambition of emulating his father in the choice of a career. His preliminary study of medicine was carried on under the effective preceptorship of his father and to fortify himself still further he then entered the well-known medical college in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1899, and from which he received his well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. His professional novitiate was served at West Union,

Fayette county, where he continued to be associated in practice with his father until 1901, when he came to Clayton county and established himself in practice at Volga. Here he now controls a large and representative practice, based alike on his recognized ability and the unqualified personal popularity which he has gained. The doctor is one of the wideawake and loyal citizens of Clayton county and is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party. He is an active member of the Clayton County Medical Society and the Iowa State Medical Society, and at Elkader is affiliated with Lodge No. 72, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons. He and his wife are popular figures in the leading social life of their home community and Mrs. Ainsworth is a zealous member of the Presbyterian church. In September, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Ainsworth to Miss Katherine Hartman, who was born at Fayette, in the Iowa county of the same name, and who is a daughter of M. J. and Emma (Weber) Hartman, whose five children all survive the honored father. Mr. and Mrs. Hartman were born and reared in Germany and upon coming to the United States they established their home in Chicago, where they met their full share of hardships incidental to the great Chicago fire of 1871, and whence they came a few years later to Iowa and established their home at Fayette, where the death of Mr. Hartman occurred in 1915, and where his widow still resides. Dr. and Mrs. Ainsworth have three children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here indicated: Dortha E., February 5, 1903; Sidney E., December 3, 1908; and Katherine L., December 17, 1913.

**Oley Allen**, who with his brother, Albert, a sketch of whose life appears in another portion of this work, was born near McGregor, Clayton county, November 28, 1865. He is a son of Hans Allen and Anna (Olson) Allen. Hans Allen accompanied his parents to America as a boy of sixteen years, the voyage consuming over five months, which, in this day of six-day steamers, helps us to realize the difficulties and hardships they endured to make living easier for their descendants. They came direct to Iowa via rail as far as Galena, Illinois, the end of the railroad in the west, thence up the Mississippi to McGregor's landing, where his father took up a government claim of 160 acres about six miles from what is now the town of McGregor. Hans Allen assisted his father in reclaiming the land and later he took up a claim on his own account near his father's land and reclaimed it, and having improved it, sold it at a considerable profit, afterward returning to the home farm, which he continued to work until his father's death, at which time he bought the other heirs' interests and continued on the domain until his death, in the year 1896. In 1864 occurred the marriage of Hans Allen and Anna Olson, whose parents were also pioneers of Clayton county, coming to Iowa in the early '60's. There were born to them 12 children, Oley, Carrie, Anna, Albert, Mary, Christine, Andrew, Lemuel, Helma, John, Esther and Katherine. They are all living with the exception of Anna, who passed to the other life in 1904. Oley Allen had his



early education in the Mendon district school, walking over two miles in winter, often when the thermometer was thirty degrees below zero. Later a new school was built in Clayton township, nearer his home, which he attended until he was nearly twenty years of age. It is interesting to note that in the early days of Clayton county the boys and girls could only attend the winter term of school, being too busy helping their parents during the summer season. After leaving school, in conjunction with his brother, Albert, they entered business life by operating a drilling outfit, and also owned three threshing machines, which they ran during the harvest season and they also owned and operated a sawmill near McGregor. In 1903, the brothers disposed of their interests in these outfits and Oley Allen came to Elkader, Iowa, being preceded by his brother Albert, who arrived in Elkader in 1902. They started a machine repairing shop, making repairs on all kinds of machinery and coming into contact with the majority of the farmers in Clayton county. They gradually drifted into the automobile business, beginning by making repairs on the single cylinder machines, which were practically the only ones on the market; later they took the agency of the Oldsmobile car, and in 1907, accepted the agency of the Reo car; also, in the spring of 1910, they secured the agency for the Buick automobile. Their business grew so rapidly that they were forced to build to meet its requirements and erected a two-story structure with a floor space of about 18,000 feet and in 1916 put in a sprinkler system which was the first one installed in Clayton county. They are the largest automobile dealers in Clayton county and, on the Buick machines, do the largest business of any county agency in the Chicago territory. On Dec. 20th, 1895, Oley Allen was united in marriage with Emma Hulverson, a daughter of Gustav and Gertrude (Peterson) Hulverson, both of whom were pioneers of Clayton county and to them were born two children, William, age 18, and Ruth, 16 years of age. Mr. Allen is a member of the Modern Woodmen and of the Odd Fellows lodges, and both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

William M. Allyn is a sterling representative of an honored pioneer family given to Clayton county by historic old New England, and holds prestige as one of the vigorous and upright citizens who aided in laying broad and deep the foundations for the fine superstructure of civic and industrial prosperity now in evidence in this attractive division of the Hawkeye State. He whose name initiates this paragraph has been a resident of Clayton county for more than sixty years and is now one of its venerable and highly esteemed citizens, the while he has not only been a prominent figure in connection with the development of the agricultural resources of the county, but his also is the distinction of having been one of the gallant patriots who represented Iowa as a soldier of the Union in the great civil conflict through which the nation's integrity was perpetuated. Though he has relegated to others the more arduous and exacting labors and responsibilities that were long his portion as one of the world's productive workers, he still resides on his fine

homestead farm of 280 acres in section 2, Garnaville township, and his residence is within easy access of the village of St. Olaf, from which he receives service on rural mail route No. 2. William M. Allyn was born in New London county, Connecticut, on the 28th of December, 1828, and in that staunch commonwealth of New England his parents, Abel and Polly Allyn, passed their entire lives, both having been representatives of fine old colonial stock. Of the eight children Mr. Allyn is the younger of the two now living, and his sister, Margaret, is the widow of James Billings, and now a resident of New London county, Connecticut. Mr. Allyn was reared and educated in his native state, where he gained his early experience with the work of the home farm and where he continued his residence until he had attained more than his legal majority. In April, 1859, when 32 years of age, he came to Clayton county, Iowa, where he secured a Mexican soldier's claim in Garnaville township, and on this original place he has continued to live and labor during the long intervening years, which have been marked by his faithful stewardship and by his successful achievement in connection with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing. His financial resources when he came to Iowa were merely nominal, and through his own well ordered endeavors he has gained large and worthy success, as indicated by his ownership at the present time of a valuable and specially well improved landed estate of two hundred and eighty acres. It is a far cry to revert to the primitive log cabin which he erected for his original abiding place to the fine modern residence which he now occupies, and all other permanent improvements which he has made on his farm are of the best type. When the dark cloud of civil war cast its pall over the national horizon, Mr. Allyn was one of the loyal and patriotic citizens of Clayton county who subordinated all other interests to go forth in defense of the Union, and his service during the great fratricidal conflict was such as to reflect perpetual honor upon his name and memory. In the spring of 1862 he enlisted as a private in Company E, Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he proceeded to the front and in which he rose to the office of sergeant. His regiment was assigned to the army of Tennessee and within his service of nearly three years he took part in numerous engagements, including a number of the sanguinary battles marking the progress of the war. In an engagement at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, he received a severe wound in his left foot, and after having been confined to a hospital for several weeks he was mustered out and received his honorable discharge. He then returned to his farm and during the long years that have since elapsed he has here continued as one of the staunch and influential representatives of the agricultural and live-stock interests of Clayton county, with inviolable place in popular confidence and good will. He is a stalwart in the local camp of the Republican party and has shown a loyal interest in all things pertaining to the communal welfare, but he has had no desire for public office, his only service having been that of school director, of which office he was the incumbent for several years. Soon after his service as a sol-



dier in the Civil war had been terminated Mr. Allyn wisely girded himself the better for the active duties and responsibilities of life by taking unto himself a wife. He wedded Miss Juliette Eddy, who was born in the State of Vermont, as were also her parents, Joseph and Celeste Eddy, with whom she came to Iowa in the pioneer days, her parents passing the remainder of their lives in this state. Mr. and Mrs. Allyn shared with mutual solicitude and loyalty the joys and sorrows of life, and their ideal companionship found its greatest glory in the gracious evening of their lives, the silver cord of their devotion being severed in 1901, when Mrs. Allyn was summoned to eternal rest, her memory being revered by all who came within the sphere of her gentle influence and her mortal remains resting in the cemetery at Kandallville, Winneshiek county, not far distant from her old home. She is survived by two children, William, who has practical charge of the old homestead farm, and Juliette, who remains with her father and presides over the attractive home; she is popular in the social life of the community and was graduated in the high school at McGregor.

**Conrad Andreæ** has maintained his home in Clayton county from his boyhood and has here brought his energies to bear so effectively as to win for himself a large measure of material prosperity in connection with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-raising, of which he is now one of the prominent and honored exponents in Sperry township. His parents were pioneer settlers of this county and still reside here, venerable in years and established in a home in which they find peace and comfort in the gracious evening of their long and useful life. Conrad Andreæ was born at Dubuque, Iowa, on the 20th of November, 1856, and is a son of Albert and Magdalena Prottengeier Andreæ, who were born and reared in Germany and who immigrated to America in the early '50s. They established their home in Dubuque, Iowa, and about 1853 they came to Clayton county and settled on a farm in Sperry township. Later they removed to Wisconsin, but about two years later they returned to Clayton county, where they have since maintained their home. Of their nine children seven are living. Conrad Andreæ remained at the parental home until the time of his marriage, and in the meanwhile had made good use of the advantages of the common schools. At the age of twenty-three years he wedded Miss Anna Weege, who has the distinction of having been the first white child born in St. Sebald, Sperry township, this county, where her parents established their home in the early pioneer days. After his marriage Mr. Andreæ farmed on rented land for two years and he then purchased a portion of his present well improved farm of two hundred acres, in Section 19, Sperry township, the excellent improvements on the place having been made by him and his well directed efforts having resulted in his developing one of the really model farmsteads of this favored section of his native state. He is one of the prosperous farmers and highly esteemed citizens of Clayton county, is a Democrat in politics, takes a lively interest in community affairs, but has never sought or held public office. Both he and his wife are communi-

cants of the Lutheran church, and of their eight children the last two died young; Henry is cashier of the Volga Savings Bank; George, Herman, Katherine, Albert and Frederick remain at the parental home.

**Henry C. Andreae** is the efficient and popular cashier of the Volga Savings Bank and is known and valued as one of the representative business men of the younger generation in his native county. He was born in Sperry township, this county, on the 7th of October, 1883, and is a son of Conrad and Anna (Wege) Andreae, the former of whom was born in Dubuque, this state, and the latter of whom was born in Clayton county, both families having been founded in Iowa in the pioneer period of its history. The parents now reside in their pleasant home near Arlington, Fayette county, and the father has been a prominent and influential exponent of agricultural enterprise in this section of the Hawkeye state, both he and his wife being zealous communicants of the Lutheran church and the lineage of both tracing back to staunch German origin. Of the eight children the eldest is George, who remains with his parents on the home farm; Henry C., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Katherine is at the parental home, as are also Herman and Albert; Philippina is deceased; Frederick is the youngest member of the parental home circle; and William died in early childhood. After having profited fully by the advantages afforded in the district schools Henry C. Andreae continued his active association with agricultural industry for three years, and he then fortified himself more fully for the practical affairs of life by completing a two years' course in the Upper Iowa Business University, at Fayette. For a short time thereafter he was identified with the general merchandise business and he then assumed a clerical position in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, his service having been continued in Clayton county for a period of four years, after which he held for six months the position of money clerk in the office of the Wells-Fargo Express Company in the city of Milwaukee. The impaired health of his loved mother caused him to resign this position and return to the parental home, and in 1910 he accepted his present responsible post, that of cashier of the Volga Savings Bank, an incumbency in which he has shown marked discrimination and executive ability. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church in their home village of Volga, where also they are popular factors in the leading social activities of the community. On the 2d of May, 1913, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Andreae to Miss Selma Piehl, who was born and reared in Clayton county, and they have a winsome little daughter, Mary Elizabeth, who was born May 12, 1915.

**George Aulerich** was a youth of nineteen years when he came with his widowed mother from his German Fatherland to America and established a home in Iowa, where it has been his to gain through earnest and honest endeavor a generous measure of success and to become one of the most substantial landholders and exponents of agricultural industry in Clayton county. Here he has



maintained his home for half a century and here he resides upon his fine homestead farm in Farmersburg township, though the autumn of the year 1916 will record his attainment of the psalmist's span of three score years and ten. The gracious prosperity that attends him in his venerable years enables him to put aside the heavier burdens and labors that were so long his portion. He is one of the substantial and honored citizens of the county, is the owner of a large and well improved landed estate of nearly six hundred acres in this county, and none is more clearly entitled to representation in this history. Mr. Aulerich was born in Germany, on the 30th of September, 1846, and is a son of George and Dora (Schultz) Aulerich, the former of whom passed his entire life in Germany, where his vocation was that of farming. In 1866 the widowed mother came with her three children to the United States and established a home in Clayton county, Iowa, where she passed the remainder of her life and attained to the venerable age of 81 or 82. Of the children two are living. He whose name introduces this review gained his early education in the excellent schools of his native land and was nineteen years of age when he accompanied his mother to the United States and to Clayton county. Here he found employment as a farm hand for several years, and in the meanwhile he carefully saved his earnings and bent every energy to the gaining of independence and worthy prosperity. Finally he purchased a farm of seventy acres, in Farmersburg township, and upon the same he continued his residence sixteen years, his energy and good management having brought to him such measure of success that he was then enabled to sell his farm to advantage and purchase a portion of the fine homestead on which he now resides. With increasing prosperity he continued to add to his landed estate until he became the owner of two hundred and fifteen acres of fine land in section 6, Farmersburg township, upon which splendid domain he still retains his residence and to the supervision of which he still gives his vigorous attention, as the years rest lightly upon him. At a later period he purchased other land to the amount of three hundred and sixty acres, situated in Monona township, and this property is given over to the care of his oldest son, who is a substantial agriculturist and progressive citizen of his native county. Mr. Aulerich has been deeply appreciative of the opportunities which have been afforded him in the county and state of his adoption, and has stood exponent of loyal and liberal citizenship. He is a staunch Democrat in politics but has had no desire for public office, the only position of the sort in which he has consented to serve having been that of member of the school board of his district. He and his wife are earnest communicants and liberal supporters of the Lutheran church at Farmersburg. In 1872 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Aulerich to Miss Minnie Klinge, who was born in Germany, one of a family of six children, all of whom are living and all of whom came with the parents, Frederick and Elizabeth (Holtz) Klinge, to the United States in the year 1871, the family home being established in Clayton county, where the father became a substantial farmer and where

he passed the rest of his life, the venerable mother being still a resident of this county and being nearly ninety years of age at the time of this writing, 1916. Of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Aulerich the eldest is George, Jr., who is one of the progressive farmers of this county, as is also Henry, who remains at the parental home and is associated with his father in the management of the farm; Bertha is the wife of Charles Engelhardt and they reside in the state of South Dakota; Matilda is a trained nurse by profession and resides in the city of Chicago; Amelia and Emma remain at the parental home; and Emil is another of the aggressive young farmers of Clayton county, where he has a farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Monona township.

**Herman A. Axtell** may well consider himself fortunate in being the owner of one of the fine farm estates of Clayton county and further interest attaches to his prestige as one of the progressive and successful agriculturists and stock-growers of the county by reason of the fact that he was an infant at the time of the family removal to this county and was reared to manhood on the farm which he now owns and on which he has an ideal rural home. Mr. Axtell was born in Lorain county, Ohio, on the 17th of September, 1862, and in the following year his parents came to Clayton county and settled on the farm now owned by him. He is one of the five surviving children of Augustus E. and Martha (Bartlett) Axtell, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of the state of New York. After having maintained their residence in Ohio for a term of years the parents came to Clayton county, Iowa, in 1863, as previously noted, and the father proved a resourceful and broad-minded member of the pioneer community, in which he developed and improved the splendid landed estate now owned and occupied by his son Herman A., of this review. Here he died at the age of 85 years and here his venerable widow still resides, she having celebrated her eighty-fourth birthday anniversary in 1916 and being one of the revered pioneer women of the county. Reared to the sturdy discipline of the farm, Herman A. Axtell was not permitted to neglect in the least the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality and period, and his individual ambition along this line was indicated by his later completing an effective course of study in a business college at Fayette. He continued to be associated with the work and management of the home farm until he was 21 years of age, and thereafter he was employed for a total of five years in a creamery at Cresco, Howard county, and Clayton county, where he gained expert knowledge of this line of industrial enterprise. For twenty years thereafter he rented the old homestead farm of his parents and proved himself one of the specially alert, progressive and successful farmers and stock-growers of the county. At the expiration of the period noted he purchased the fine property, which comprises two hundred acres of land, in sections 24 and 25 Cass township which is improved with the best type of farm buildings and supplied with the most approved modern facilities. In connection with diversified agriculture Mr. Axtell has been specially prominent and successful in the breeding



and raising of fine Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine. He has served consecutively since 1910 as township clerk, has been secretary of the school board of his district since 1902, and served fourteen years as township assessor. These preferments denote alike his loyal interest in public affairs of a local order, his ability and the high estimate placed upon him in the community that had always represented his home. He gives his political allegiance to the Democratic party, is affiliated with the Modern Brotherhood of America and he and his wife attend and support the Baptist church at Strawberry Point, from which village their attractive and hospitable home has service on rural mail route No. 1. In 1888 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Axtell to Miss Leah Lamphiear, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Maxwell) Lamphiear, the former of whom is deceased and the latter of whom still maintains her home in this county. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Axtell the first, Fern C., died at the age of 12 years; Lloyd W. now has the management of the fine farm of three hundred and forty-five acres which his father owns in Stutsman county, North Dakota; Fannie M. was graduated in the Teachers' Institute at Cedar Falls and is now a popular teacher in the public schools of Riceville, Iowa; Meron A. is a member of the class of 1918 in the Iowa State Agricultural College, at Ames; Howard I. is attending the high school at Strawberry Point; and the two younger members of the ideal home circle are Herma R. and Martha E.

**Henry C. Baars** is associated with his next younger brother, Fritz, in the operation of the fine old homestead farm, in Section 36 Highland township, that figures as the place of their birth, and they are known as progressive and energetic young agriculturists and stock-growers of their native county, with secure place in popular esteem. Henry C. Baars was born on this farm on the 29th of August, 1888, and is a son of Henry and Augusta (Adam) Baars, the former of whom was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, and the latter in West Prussia. Henry Baars was a young man when he came to the United States, and in 1869 he came to Clayton county and established his home in Cox Creek township. He later removed to and improved one of the fine farms of Highland township, and he and his wife now reside at Elkader, the county seat, where he is living retired, after having won substantial prosperity through his long and effective association with farm industry. He is a Democrat in politics, and he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. Herman, the eldest of their seven children, is a prosperous farmer in Sperry township; Henry C. and Fritz, as already noted, are associated in the operations of the old home farm, which comprises two hundred acres, and Fritz was here born on the 17th of November, 1890; Albert died in childhood, as did also Hilda; and Alfred and Carrie remain at the parental home. Henry C. Baars is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early education, and he continued to assist in the operation of the home farm until he was twenty years old. He passed the following years in South Dakota, then resumed

his association with the work of the home farm and one year later he and his brother Fritz assumed the active control and management of the fine old homestead, upon which they have since continued their successful operations in diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent live stock. The subject of this review is serving as school director of his district, is a Democrat in his political adherency and both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. Mr. Baars is married to Miss Katherine Kuehl, daughter of Joseph J. Kuehl, of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this work.

**John Bahr** is actively associated with one of the representative business enterprises of the vigorous little city of Elkader, judicial center of Clayton county, and has made an excellent record in his chosen vocation. He is a skilled artisan, and has entire charge of the plumbing and heating departments of the substantial hardware establishment in which he owns a half interest, as junior member of the firm of Brown & Bahr, in which his coadjutor is H. D. Brown. From infancy he has borne the name of his step-father, and he is a son of Frank and Sophie (Muller) Schornable, being an only child. By his father's previous marriage there was one son, Frank, and his mother later became the wife of Peter Bahr. Of the children of this last marriage the following brief record is consistently given at this point: Mary and Lena reside at Elkport, this county; Sophia is the wife of George Smith, and Clara the wife of John Wittman, both likewise residents of Elkport; Annie resides in the city of Cedar Rapids, this State; Eliza is the wife of Ernest Heuschen, of McGregor, Clayton county; and one daughter died in infancy. John Bahr, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Volga township, this county, on the 14th of December, 1870, and there he attended in boyhood the district schools, though his broader education has been that gained under the direction of that wisest of all head-masters, experience. As a lad of fourteen years he became virtually dependent upon his own resources, as he then left the home roofter and found employment at farm work. One year later he established his residence in Elkader, where he entered the employ of his present business associate, Mr. Brown, and served a practical apprenticeship to the tinner's trade. Later he purchased a half interest in the business, to the expansion and definite success of which he has contributed effectively, and it is interesting to record that he became a partner in the thriving enterprise before he had attained to his legal majority. Fidelity, consecutive industry and sterling integrity have marked his business career, and have given him inviolable place in popular esteem, besides which he has won substantial place as one of the vigorous and enterprising business men of his native county. He has shown deep interest in community affairs and has been a member of the board of aldermen of Elkader for thirteen years, his services in this office having been marked by the same spirit of progressiveness and loyalty that has dominated his course in his private business. He is a stalwart in the local camp of the Republican party, is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Woodmen of the



World, and both he and his wife are communicants of the German Lutheran church. On the 21st of March, 1893, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bahr to Miss Kate Wertley, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and of their two children the first, a daughter, died in infancy, the surviving child, Harry John, having been born February 21, 1903, and being at the present time, 1916, a duly ambitious student in the public schools of Elkader.

**Edward E. Bauder** is one of the representative younger exponents of agricultural industry in his native county and his progressiveness is shown in his availing himself of the most modern and approved facilities and methods in carrying forward the operations of the fine old homestead farm, in section 7, Marion township, where additional interest attaches to his activities by reason of the fact that the farm that thus receives his attention was the place of his nativity, his birth having here occurred on the 4th of August, 1885. He is a son of Samuel and Caroline (Riorke) Bauder, the former of whom was born in the fair little republic of Switzerland and the latter of whom was born and reared in Iowa, a member of one of the sterling pioneer families of this commonwealth. Samuel Bauder came to America when a youth and he became one of the successful agriculturists and representative citizens of Marion township, Clayton county; his widow maintains her home in Elgin, Fayette county. Of the six children the eldest is Alfred, who is now a resident of the city of Cedar Rapids, this state; Mary is the widow of Knudt Scarshaug of Elgin; Emma is the wife of Ole Olson, of Clermont, Fayette county; Anna is the wife of Lewis J. Grouth, of Elgin, Fayette county; Edward E. is a successful farmer of Marion township and figures as the immediate subject of this sketch; and Ernest is now a resident of the city of Detroit, Michigan. The father of these children died when Edward was a boy of nine years. Edward E. Bauder was reared to adult age on the home farm of which he now has the active management and is indebted to the public schools of Clayton county for his early educational discipline. His career as an independent agriculturist was initiated when he was twenty years of age and he has shown remarkable circumspection and progressiveness in the directing of the operations of the old homestead farm. Under his supervision have been installed many improvements of the best modern type, including a silo that has a capacity for the storage of one hundred tons, and a gas engine for supplying water for both farm and domestic purposes. Mr. Bauder has made his general farm operations distinctively successful and in connection with diversified agriculture he is giving special attention to the raising of the large type of Poland-China swine, the best specimens of this breed being found in appreciable numbers on his farm. He has insistently bred to the best type, as is shown by his paying one hundred and ten dollars for one pure-bred and registered brood sow and eighty dollars for another, besides which he is the owner of the well-known boar, "Big Black Orange," the registered number of which is 226,579, and thus he has the best breeding stock, with resultant prominence as one of the leading breeders of Poland-China swine

in this part of Iowa. As a citizen Mr. Bauder is loyal and progressive, even as he is in connection with the affairs of business, and he is aligned as a supporter of the principles and policies of the Republican party. His home place receives mail service on a rural route from the village of Elgin, which is his postoffice address. On the 24th of February, 1910, Mr. Bauder wedded Miss Alma Bakeman, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Nicholas and Mary (Underwood) Bakeman.

**Frederick W. Bauer.**—The admirable agricultural resources of Clayton county have constituted the secure basis of its progress and prosperity, and as exponents of the great fundamental industry of farming there are found at the present time a goodly number of alert and valued representatives of the second generation of families whose names have been prominently and worthily linked with the development and advancement of this section of the state. Frederick W. Bauer is one of the native sons of Clayton county, who holds prestige as one of the substantial agriculturists and representative citizens of Boardman township, where he owns and operates a well improved farm of one hundred and eighty acres. Mr. Bauer was born in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 31st of August, 1869, and is a son of William and Emma (Hochhausen) Bauer, both of whom were born in Germany. William Bauer was a child when he accompanied his parents on their immigration to America, and the family home was established in the State of Ohio, where he was reared to adult age and received a good common school education. As a young man he came to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county. He purchased a tract of land in Garnavillo township and reclaimed the same into a productive farm. In the late '80s he sold this property advantageously and soon afterward purchased the farm now occupied by his son, Frederick W., the immediate subject of this sketch. Here he continued his successful activities as a thrifty and progressive agriculturist and stock-grower until about 1906, since which time he and his wife have maintained their residence in the city of Dubuque, where he is living virtually retired, in the enjoyment of the tangible rewards of former years of earnest toil and endeavor. He contributed his quota to the development of Clayton county along both civic and industrial lines and both he and his wife have a wide circle of friends in this county. They are zealous communicants of the Catholic church and his political affiliation is with the Democratic party. Of the children the eldest is he whose name introduces this article; Elizabeth is the wife of Max Ovitz and they maintain their home at Elkader, the judicial center of this county; Otilla is the wife of Joseph Schiltz, of Dubuque; Agnes is the wife of Paul Schammel, of Waterloo, this state; Charles and Irma are with their parents in Dubuque; and Amelia died in childhood. Frederick W. Bauer reverts to the excellent public schools of his native county as the medium through which he acquired his early education, and his initial experience in connection with the practical affairs of life was that gained in his early association with the work of the home farm. This discipline, continued through the



period of his youth, well fitted him for the responsibilities which he assumed when he engaged in farming and stock-growing in an independent way and has contributed materially to his winning of precedence as one of the thorough-going, ambitious and successful farmers of his native county. He continued his association with his father in the work and management of the farm until his parents left the homestead to enjoy urban life, and thereafter he rented the place of his father until 1906, when he purchased the property, which now comprises a farm of one hundred and forty acres, equipped with a substantial and attractive modern house of two stories, and with excellent barns, fences and other accessories of a model farmstead. With much of discrimination and enterprise Mr. Bauer carries forward his operations along the line of properly diversified agriculture, and he likewise gives attention to the breeding and raising of high-grade live stock. As a public-spirited citizen of well reinforced political convictions, he is aligned as a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, both he and his wife being communicants of the Catholic church, in the faith of which they were reared. On the 16th of November, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bauer to Miss Eva Fryetich, who likewise was born in Clayton county, where her father has long been a prosperous farmer, and the five children of this union are: Florence, Evaline, Clarence, Helen and Marian.

**Fred A. Beckett** passed virtually his entire life in Clayton county, as he was an infant at the time when his parents became pioneer settlers of the county, and here it was his to achieve definite independence and success through his effective association with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing and to win and retain the confidence and good will of all with whom he came in contact. He was one of the representative farmers of Clayton township at the time of his death, which occurred on the 24th of April, 1908, and his widow still resides upon and has the general supervision of the affairs of the fine homestead farm, which comprises one hundred and five acres and which is most pleasingly situated in section 34, Clayton township. Mr. Beckett was born at Belvidere, Illinois, on the 13th of September, 1858, and is the only deceased member of a family of four sons born to Peter B. and Charlotte A. (Wayman) Beckett. His parents were born and reared in England and immigrated to America in 1852. They were residents of Ohio about one year and thereafter maintained their home at Decatur, Illinois, until 1854, when they removed to Rock county, Wisconsin, where the father initiated activities as a farmer, of which line of enterprise he became an exponent a few years later in Boone county, Illinois, where the birth of the subject of this memoir occurred and whence soon afterward the family came to Clayton county, Iowa, where Peter B. Beckett eventually became one of the substantial and prominent farmers of Clayton township and where he continued to reside, a sterling and honored citizen, until his death, which occurred in 1901, his devoted wife having passed away in 1894. Reared to maturity upon the farm of his father, Fred A. Beckett early learned the valuable lessons of

practical industry and availed himself simultaneously of the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality. He was a young man when he initiated his independent career as an agriculturist and stock-grower on the fine farm upon which his widow still maintains her home and which he developed into one of the model places of Clayton township. Here he continued his well ordered activities until he was called from the stage of life's mortal endeavors, a few months prior to his fiftieth birthday anniversary, and he left as a gracious heritage the untarnished reputation and the record for worthy accomplishment that indicate the finest sense of personal stewardship, his mortal remains having been laid to rest in the cemetery at Clayton. He was a loyal and public-spirited citizen, was a Democrat in his political allegiance and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as is also his widow. In the year 1881 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Beckett to Miss Bessie Robinson, who was born in England and who came with her parents to the United States and became a resident of Clayton county in the year 1873. She is a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Drake) Robinson, both representatives of fine old English lineage, and her parents continued their residence in Clayton county until their death, their five children still surviving them. Mr. and Mrs. Beckett became the parents of ten children, concerning whom brief record is made in conclusion of this memoir: Cora E. is the wife of August Saacke and they maintain their home at McGregor; Hettie May is the wife of Percy Anderson, of McGregor; Bessie is the wife of James Duval and they reside in South Dakota; Albert drowned at the age of 9 years; Anna R. is the wife of John McWilliams, a representative farmer of Clayton county; Beatrice is the wife of Frederick Sibell, of Madison, Wisconsin; Peter F. and George remain with their widowed mother and are associated in the work of the home farm; Lucile likewise remains a member of the home circle; and the tenth child died in infancy.

**John T. Beckett** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his nativity and owns and resides upon the fine old homestead farm, in Clayton township, which figures as the place of his birth and which under his energetic and judicious management has been made one of the well improved and valuable landed estates of the county. Mr. Beckett is a scion of staunch English stock in both the paternal and maternal lines and was born in Clayton on the 25th of December, 1863, when he became a right welcome Christmas arrival in the home of his parents, Peter B. and Charlotte A. (Wayman) Beckett, both natives of England. He whose name introduces this article was the fourth in order of birth in a family of four sons, of whom three are living. Peter B. Beckett was born on the 25th of October, 1821, and was reared and educated in his native land, where his marriage was solemnized. In 1852 he came with his young wife to the United States and they passed the first year in the state of Ohio. They then established their residence at Decatur, Illinois, where Mr. Beckett entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, in the service of



which he continued until 1854, when he removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, where for a short interval he was engaged in the manufacturing of brick, after which he was for two years a representative of agricultural enterprise in that vicinity. During the ensuing year he was engaged in farming in Boone county, Illinois, and he then, about the year 1858, came to Clayton county, Iowa, where he turned his attention to the butchering business, of which he was a pioneer exponent and with which he continued his identification for a few years. He then purchased a tract of land in section 34, Clayton township, where he reclaimed and developed a productive farm and where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their long and useful lives—sterling citizens to whom came a merited prosperity and the greater reward of the confidence and good will of the community in which they long maintained their home. Mrs. Beckett was summoned to eternal rest in 1894 and her venerable husband passed away in 1901, their remains resting side by side in the cemetery at Clayton. Both were reared in the faith of the Church of England and their lives were guided and governed by the Christian principles which they thus professed. John T. Beckett was reared to adult age on the farm which he now owns and operates, and in the meanwhile he gained due reinforcement for the battle of life by attending the common schools of the locality in which he gained the education that proved ample foundation for the broader and more practical discipline that has come to him through association with men and affairs in later years. Shortly after attaining to his legal majority he rented the old homestead farm, and later he purchased the property, which comprises one hundred and fifty-six acres and upon which he has made many excellent improvements of permanent order. This is one of the good farms of the county and it has been the stage of his well ordered activities during his entire adult career, the while he is known as a progressive and successful representative of agricultural and live-stock industry in his native county as well as a loyal and steadfast citizen who is well upholding the honors of the name which he bears. He is now serving his second term in the office of township trustee, was treasurer of his school district for some time, and is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. He is affiliated with Oakleaf Camp, No. 2875, Modern Woodmen of America, at Clayton, in which he has passed various official chairs, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Christian Science church. In the year 1892 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Beckett to Miss Caroline Allen, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Hans and Anna (Olson) Allen, both of whom were born in Norway, whence they came with their parents to the United States when young. Mr. Allen became one of the substantial farmers and highly esteemed citizens of Clayton county and here his death occurred in 1896, his wife still surviving him. Mr. and Mrs. Beckett have two children,—Leslie, who is now employed at Elkader, the county seat, and Veva A., who is attending the McGregor high school.

**Frederick G. Bell** maintains his residence in his native city of McGregor, Clayton county, and has gained prominence and influence as one of the representative factors in connection with the important operations involved in the grain industry in this section of the Union, as he is now the incumbent of the responsible position of manager at McGregor of the interests and extensive business of the firm of Gilchrist & Company, which maintains a great chain of grain elevators throughout Minnesota and northern Iowa. Mr. Bell is one of the alert business men and popular and public-spirited citizens of McGregor and is a member of a family whose name has been long and worthily identified with the annals of Clayton county. He was born at McGregor on the 12th of May, 1874, and is the second in order of birth of the three children of Colin F. and Lacy (Sloan) Bell, the former a native of the State of New York and the latter of Illinois. Of the three children the first-born was a son who died in infancy, and the youngest of the number is Miss Elizabeth Bell, who still maintains her home at McGregor. Colin F. Bell came to Clayton county in the pioneer days and was for many years engaged actively and successfully in the buying and shipping of grain, with residence and business headquarters at McGregor, where he died Feb. 1st, 1905, when about 82 years of age, and where his wife passed away May 1st, 1906. Frederick G. Bell acquired his early education in the public schools of McGregor and supplemented this discipline by an effective course in the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, at Troy, New York. After his return to McGregor he became associated with his father in the grain business, with which he has since continued to be identified and in connection with which his experience has been such as to give him authoritative knowledge of all conditions and details. As manager for Gilchrist & Company he has supervision of a large and important business in the buying and shipping of grain, and his progressiveness and loyalty are further shown in the lively interest which he shows in all that touches the welfare of his native city and county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party. Mr. Bell holds membership in the Congregational church, his wife following the precepts of the Christian Science church. August 8, 1911, was the date that recorded the marriage of Mr. Bell to Miss Emma Farnum, who was born and reared at Mason City, Cerro Gordo county, this State, and they have four children—Farnum, Colin, Lyman and Lacy. It should be noted that Mr. Bell's interest in and prominent association with the grain business is further evidenced by his holding membership in the Board of Trade of the City of Chicago.

**Sam Bennington.**—Notwithstanding all the advancement that has been and yet shall be made in all other domains of human enterprise, it is certain that the great industries of agriculture and stock-growing, most closely allied with the earth itself, must ever figure as the basis of prosperity and progress along both material and civic lines. Thus that man may well be considered fortunate who stands exemplar of progressive enterprise in connection with these all-important phases of industrial activity, and such an alert,



vigorous and successful man is Sam Bennington, who has won precedence as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-raisers of his native county, where he is associated with his brother William in the ownership and operation of one of the finely improved and extensive landed estates of Clayton county, the same being specially well known by reason of its prestige in the production of the best grades of live stock, and the brothers having gained high reputation for the energy, discrimination and advanced policies which they have effectively brought to bear in connection with their operations. Sam Bennington was born on a farm in section 36, Sperry township, this county, and the date of his nativity was August 29, 1872. He is a son of Samuel and Esther (Bidwell) Bennington, both of whom were born in England—representatives of sterling old families of the "right little isle." Samuel Bennington was reared and educated in his native land and his entire active career was one of close and favored association with the great fundamental industry of agriculture. He was a young man when he came to the United States and in 1856 he numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa, where he obtained land and, with characteristic energy and circumspection, instituted the development of a farm, in Sperry township. He was a man of strong and upright character, was possessed of much business acumen, and through his well ordered endeavors he achieved a large and worthy measure of success. He gained assured place as one of the influential agriculturists and valued citizens of Clayton county at the time of his death, which occurred March 3, 1906; he was the owner of a valuable landed estate of nine hundred acres. His devoted wife passed to the life eternal on the 7th of April, 1880, and concerning their children the following brief data are entered: Charles is now a resident of Rago, Kingman county, Kansas; Annie is the wife of Thomas Butcher, of Lawrence, Van Buren county, Michigan; Esther is the wife of Edward W. Griffith, of Marion, Lynn county, Iowa; William and Sam are, as previously noted, associated in successful operations as prominent farmers and stock-growers of Clayton county. He whose name initiates this article is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early educational discipline, and he became actively associated with the work and management of the home farm, in connection with which he gained broad and exact knowledge of all details of practical and scientific agriculture and stock-raising and proved a valued coadjutor of his honored father until the latter's death. He and his older brother, William, now own a valuable landed estate of seven hundred and seventy acres, in Highland and Sperry townships, and he occupies on the same the old homestead residence of his parents. The Bennington Brothers give special attention to and have achieved marked success in the raising of the best grades of Shorthorn cattle, Shire horses and Shropshire sheep. The permanent improvements on the extensive farmstead are of the best order, including a large and attractive house, excellent barns, and minor buildings, and the equipment throughout is of the most advanced type, indicative of the progress-

siveness and thrift that make the model farmer. William Bennington, who is a bachelor, occupies a house of his own, and this building likewise adds to the attractions of the fine fraternal domain, which is one of the admirable rural estates of this section of Iowa. The brothers pay unequivocal allegiance to the cause of the Republican party and are loyal and public-spirited citizens who command the high regard of the people of their native county. Sam Bennington is affiliated with the camp of the Woodmen of the World at Volga, which city constitutes his postoffice address and from which he receives service on rural mail route No. 2. On the 22d of December, 1903, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bennington to Miss Clara Chapman, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county and whose parents, Engel and Mary (Jellings) Chapman, both now deceased, were born in England. Mr. and Mrs. Bennington have no children.

**August Benson** is another of the sterling sons of the fair Norse-land who have found in America the advantages and opportunities for the achieving of definite independence and prosperity, and he has been a resident of Clayton county for over thirty years. Here his industry and progressiveness are indicated in his ownership of one of the fine farms of Highland township, and he is specially worthy of representation in this publication. Mr. Benson was born in Goteberg, Sweden, on the 5th of August, 1855, and is a son of Bengt Anderson and Bertha (Larson) Anderson, who passed their entire lives in their native land, their son August receiving the surname of Benson, in accordance with the ancient custom of Sweden, that of giving to children for surnames the full or a derivative from the personal name of the father. He whose name initiates this review was reared on his father's farm and gained his early education in the schools of his native land. He was the eighth in order of birth in a family of twelve children, of whom the eldest, Anna Breta, remains in Sweden; Christina and Andrew died in their native land; Lars and Johannes still reside in Sweden; Carl and August (first of the name) are deceased, the latter having died in infancy and the same name having been given to the subject of this review, who was the next child; Magnus is deceased; Johanna is the wife of Halvor Torkleson, a progressive farmer of Clayton county; John resides in the city of Chicago, as does also Emma, who is the wife of August Jacobson. August Benson remained at the parental home until he had attained to the age of twenty-one years, when he severed the ties that bound him to his native land and came to America, fortified with energy and ambition and determined to make advancement through his own efforts. He resided for some time in the state of New York, maintaining his home first at Brockton and later at Dunkirk, and incidental to his work at this period of his career it is interesting to record that he had the distinction of driving the first spike in connection with the construction of the line of the Nickel Plate Railroad in the Empire state. Later he was for five years in the employ of a physician, Dr. Williams, at Dunkirk, and he then, in 1885, came to Clayton county, where he worked one year on a farm. He had



carefully conserved his earnings during the period of his residence in the United States, and thus he found himself at the expiration of this first year justified in the purchasing of his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Section 1, Highland township. He has made the best of improvements on the place, has a substantial and modern residence of two stories, and in addition to the homestead he now owns a tract of twenty acres of timber land, in Highland township. Mr. Benson is a practical, industrious and progressive farmer, gives special attention to the raising of clover, and propagates also the other crops best suited to the soil and climate of this section of Iowa, including alfalfa, which he has grown quite successfully in a small way for the last few years, besides raising fine grades of live stock. The splendid prosperity that has attended his indefatigable efforts is further attested by his having in recent time purchased in Highland township an additional tract of one hundred and ninety-seven acres, in which he has given to his sons a partnership interest. He is a staunch Republican, is serving as school director of his district and he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. In 1884 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Benson to Miss Elizabeth Jacoby, who likewise was born in Sweden, and she has proved his devoted helpmeet during the years of their gracious companionship. Of the children born to this happy union, all received the advantages of the excellent schools of Clayton county. Hilma, the oldest, is married to Mr. Levy M. Erickson of Farmersburg; Charles August is a graduate of the Iowa State College of Agriculture at Ames, and is the present deputy clerk of the District Court of Clayton county. Jerda is a successful and popular teacher in the district schools, and Oscar Arthur is preparing himself for a collegiate course at Ames College. It is planned soon that Charles shall resign his official position and that father and sons shall join in the improvement of the old homestead and their newly acquired land, which is all in one body, and convert it into a first-class stock farm.

**Ben M. Benson** holds precedence as one of the representative farmers of Highland township, and is well worthy of recognition in this history of his native county. He was born in Marion township, on the 22d of July, 1862, and is a son of Michael and Bergat (Olson) Benson, both of whom were born in Norway. Michael Benson was reared to manhood in his native land and in 1859 he immigrated to the United States and established his residence in Marion township, Clayton county, in 1861. After due experience as a pioneer farmer in that township he removed to section 3, Highland township, where he developed a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres, this old homestead having continued as his place of residence until his death, which occurred January 10, 1891, the devoted wife of his young manhood having been summoned to rest on the 5th of June, 1875, and both having been earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Of their five children the first, Ben, died in infancy, and the second child is Ben M., the immediate subject of this review; Ole is a prosperous farmer in Wagner



township; Carrie is the wife of Nels E. Nelson, of Lyon county; and Isabel is the wife of Henry Embertson, of Wagner township. Ben M. Benson has resided on the old homestead farm from the time of his birth and now owns a well improved landed estate of two hundred and sixty acres, devoted to diversified agriculture and the raising of approved grades of live stock. He has at all times taken a loyal interest in community affairs, is a Republican in his political adherency, served two terms as township trustee and is now a member of the school board of the home district in which he himself acquired his early education. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church in Highland township and he is serving as its treasurer. His attractive home, with modern conveniences and appointments, receives mail service on rural route No. 2 from the village of Elgin. On the 8th of March, 1889, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Benson to Miss Berdelia Lein, who likewise was born and reared in this county, where her parents, Lars and Josand (Olson) Lein, established their home upon their immigration to America from Norway, in 1857, her father becoming one of the sturdy and honored pioneer farmers of Highland township. He died in 1870 and his widow now resides in the state of Minnesota. They became the parents of eleven children, of whom the first, Ivan, is deceased; Ole resides at Grand Forks, North Dakota; Emily is the wife of Bertines Hulverson, of North Dakota; Isabel is the wife of A. Storeland and they reside in Minnesota; Bertha is the wife of Hans Hanson, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Lars is deceased; Mrs. Benson was the next in order of birth; Georgina is the wife of Henry Highfield, and they reside in the state of Idaho; Julia is the wife of M. T. Paulson, of Austin, Minnesota; Caroline is the wife of Rev. N. G. Peterson, who is now pastor of a Lutheran church in the city of Des Moines; Laura is the wife of M. O. Swinstad, of Devil's Lake, North Dakota. In conclusion is given brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Benson: Leonard Elmer was born September 22, 1889, and is associated in the management of the home farm; Betsy Maria, born November 7, 1890, is the wife of Lars Larson, of Boardman township; Adelia Louisa, who remains at the parental home, as do also Josephine Ida, Melvin Enoch, Cornelia Betina, Belva Belinda and Luella Geneva.

**Frank Bente** is a scion of the third generation of the Bente family in Clayton county, with whose annals the name has been identified since the early pioneer days, and he is now one of the extensive and representative agriculturists and stock-growers of his native county, where he is the owner of a well improved landed estate of three hundred and twenty-seven acres, in sections 11 and 12, Boardman township and with free mail service on one of the rural delivery routes from Elkader, the county seat. Mr. Bente was born in Cox Creek township, this county, on the 17th of February, 1876, and is a son of William and Margaret (Kress) Bente, both of whom were born in Germany but reared and educated in the United States. William Bente was a child of three years at the time of his parents' immigration to America and he became one

of the pioneer settlers in what is now Cox Creek township, Clayton county, Iowa, where he reclaimed and improved a valuable farm and where he continued his residence until his death, which occurred in 1910. He was one of the substantial and highly esteemed citizens of this county, was a Republican in politics and was a communicant of the Lutheran church, as is also his widow, who now maintains her home at Elkader, the county seat. Of their ten children the eldest is Henry, who is a prosperous farmer in Read township; Louis resides at Elkader; George is engaged in farming in Boardman township; Mary is the wife of Adolph Altschul, of Duluth, Minnesota; Frank, of this review, was the fifth child; Annie is the wife of Edward Messe, of Littleport, this county; Michael is a farmer in Cox Creek township; Katherine is the wife of Robert Englart, and they reside in the city of Chicago; Ida is the wife of John Miller of that city; and Elizabeth is the wife of Morris Hesner, of Strawberry Point, Clayton county. Frank Bente passed the period of his childhood and youth on his father's farm and in the meanwhile fortified himself in mental discipline by attending the public schools. He continued to be associated with the work and management of the home farm until he was twenty-three years of age, and in his independent career as an agriculturist and stock-grower he has shown himself ambitious, resourceful and progressive, with the result that he has gained distinctive success and is to be designated as one of the representative farmers of his native county. In 1907 he purchased his present fine farm of three hundred and twenty-seven acres, and he is making the same one of the model places of the county, with a consistent application to diversified agriculture and the raising of good grades of live stock. He is aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party, is affiliated with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. On the first of August, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bente to Miss Lena A. Scheer, who has likewise born and reared in Clayton county and who is a daughter of Frederick and Lena Scheer, both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Bente have two children—Florence Mary, who was born October 30, 1902; and Ralph William Edward, who was born December 19, 1903.

**James W. Bentley** is a representative of the second generation of one of the well-known pioneer families whose name has been worthily linked with the social and material development and progress of Clayton county, and, loyal to and appreciative of the manifold advantages and attractions of his native county, James Wilbert Bentley has had no desire to sever his allegiance thereto, for he has here continued an exponent of the important and basic lines of industry under whose influence he was reared and is one of the substantial and enterprising farmers of Highland township. He was born in this township on the 26th of December, 1861, and is a son of Albert and Sarah Jane Bentley, who became residents of the county in the earlier '50s and who here passed the remainder of their lives—folk of strong individuality, invincible integrity and



that appreciation of the true value of human thought and action that made them account well for themselves in all of the relations of life. Of their children the first-born, Albert, died in infancy; Emma, the widow of George Keeland, resides in the state of North Dakota; Charles E. is deceased; Mrs. Mary Bateman resides in the city of Minneapolis, where her husband is identified with business enterprise; and James W., of this review, is the youngest of the children. After having made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools James W. Bentley continued as an active and resourceful assistant in the work of the home farm until he had attained to the age of nineteen years, when he went to West Union, Fayette county, where he worked about one year. He then made his way to the State of Michigan, but in the following spring he returned to his native county, where he worked on a farm until the ensuing autumn. He then went to Minnesota, where he amplified his experience, but after an absence of a year he showed his continued loyalty to his home county by resuming his residence within its borders and by renting the old homestead farm of his father. He remained with his widowed mother until her death, and shortly afterward, in 1883, he purchased his present farm, which is eligibly situated in section 23, Highland township, and which comprises two hundred and thirty-five acres of the fine land for which this section of the Hawkeye state is famed. Since assuming possession of this domain Mr. Bentley has made many high-grade improvements on the place, including the erection of a house and other buildings of the most approved modern type. He has had no aspiration for the honors of political office but has shown loyal interest in all things touching the well being of the community and gives unequivocal support to the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Modern Brotherhood of America. His splendid rural home is about four miles distant from the village of Volga, from which place it receives service on mail route No. 1. On the 22d of June, 1884, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bentley to Miss Margaret Waltenbaugh, who was born in Clayton county, April 28, 1865, and of the five children of this union the eldest is Mabel, who is the widow of Frederick Heiden and who now resides at Elkader; Della is the wife of William Davis, of Manchester, Delaware county; Hattie is the wife of James Meyers, of Volga; and Blanche and Mildred remain at the parental home.

**Elmer E. Benton.**—No history of Clayton county could be written without frequent mention of Elmer E. Benton and of his father, Willard A. Benton, both of whom served the county in the office of sheriff and both of whom took active part in all the affairs of Clayton county's civic life. Willard A. Benton, father of Elmer E. Benton, was born in Afton, New York, and was the son of Orange Benton, a descendant of one of the oldest families of New England. The life of Willard Benton was filled not only with good deeds and substantial accomplishments, but with adventure and travel such as fall to the lot of but few. He was born on the



farm which was the ancestral home and received his preliminary education in the schools of the county. At an early age he started to earn his own livelihood and first worked as an apprentice at the tanner's trade. It was while he was working at this trade that the discovery of gold in California filled all the east with dreams of a golden El Dorado. The bold and adventurous nature of the youth was at once fired with these reports of fabulous riches and he joined the exodus to California and, with a companion, George Church, he made the voyage "around the Horn," landing in San Francisco in 1853. Three years were spent by him in the gold fields of California, and he suffered all the hardships and partook of all the excitement and vicissitudes of the early days of placer mining. His fortunes were varied and his golden dreams were not fulfilled, but his spirit was undaunted and he resolved to push on, across the broad Pacific, to the gold fields of Australia. He traveled through this new continent for about six months, finally reaching the gold fields. He arrived with no resources save strong and willing hands and a knowledge of mining gained in California. He immediately staked a claim, and fortune smiled on him, for the result of his first day's labor was an ounce and a half of virgin gold. While moderately successful in Australia, Mr. Benton longed for his native land and within six months he was again on the Pacific, returning to America. The good ship "Yankee Blade," on which he embarked, suffered a most tempestuous passage and was finally wrecked off the coast of Southern California. The passengers and crew were rescued by the ship "Goliath," and Mr. Benton was enabled to resume his voyage and to return to his home in the Empire State. His next, and most fortunate adventure was on the sea of matrimony, and, in 1856, he was married to Anna Maria Buck, also a descendant from an old New England family, who proved a model help-mate in every way and who was for many years one of the most popular and beloved women of Clayton county. Two children were born to them, Nellie M., who died at the age of three years, and Elmer E., whose name heads this brief biography. In 1857, shortly after their marriage, this brave young couple decided to move to the wider opportunities of the middle west and settled on Iowa as their future home. Arriving at Prairie du Chien, they crossed the Mississippi at McGregor's Landing, and Mr. Benton bought a farm in Howard county, which he cultivated for about a year. This was in the "Golden Era" of McGregor's history and Mr. Benton decided to cast his lot with the promising young metropolis. He engaged in the commission and real estate business and soon established himself as one of the leading spirits of that progressive city. He was an ardent union man, and, in 1861, he was appointed postmaster of McGregor. As the magnitude of the war increased and the call for troops became more pressing, McGregor, like hundreds of other cities, was hard pressed at times to fill its quota. It was in such an emergency that Willard A. Benton volunteered to raise a company of infantry. The story of his work, how he fairly stormed the town with martial music and with stirring patriotic appeals, has been told in volume one of this history.

In a short time a company of more than one hundred men had been raised and Willard A. Benton was the unanimous choice for captain. He accepted this call to duty and, amid the cheers of the people of McGregor, he and his gallant company embarked on the "War Eagle," and glided from the peace of Iowa to the grim scenes of war. The company proceeded to Camp Franklin, where it was mustered into the regular army. Captain Benton took part, with his company, in the battles of Hartsville, Mo., Port Gibson, the charge of Black River Bridge, near Vicksburg, and various other engagements under General Grant. Sickness compelled him to leave his command, to the great regret of his brave company, and he returned to McGregor, where, as soon as he had regained his health, he was reinstated as postmaster, during his absence the position having been efficiently filled by his capable wife. He was postmaster at McGregor for eight years and upon retiring from that office he undertook a large contract to supply wood to the C., M. & St. P. Ry., and also conducted a flourishing real estate business. It was at this time also that he introduced a unique industry into Clayton county, devoting his spare time to the raising of trout in a hatchery which he conducted for several years, thus being a pioneer in the great work now undertaken by the Government at North McGregor and many other stations. In 1873, Willard A. Benton was elected sheriff of Clayton county, serving with greatest efficiency for three terms in that important office. Retiring from this position he returned to McGregor, where he spent the remainder of his life. His useful, patriotic and successful career ended on this earth September 9, 1905, when he died at the age of seventy-six years, having been preceded in death by his wife, who passed to the other life, March 26, 1894. Elmer E. Benton received his preliminary education in the public schools of his native city, McGregor, and later was a student of the high schools. Before graduation, however, being ambitious to make his own way in the world, he obtained a position with his father as deputy sheriff. In 1880, at the close of his father's term of office, he went to Butte City, Montana, taking a position in the mines, and later prospecting for about two years. He returned to McGregor in June, 1882, and engaged as a traveling salesman for John Elbling, being employed in this capacity for about five years. He then accepted the position of deputy sheriff under J. J. Kann, and he later served in the same capacity under Sheriff George Cook. In 1895 he was elected to the office of sheriff on the democratic ticket. He was thrice re-elected, serving a total of eight years. Such was his popularity that for his fourth term he had no opposition, the Republicans conceding his election, and no candidate caring to stand against him. Mr. Benton is today serving his country as field deputy revenue collector, in which work he has proven an efficient and incorruptible public servant. His name, like that of his father before him, is synonymous with kindness, good fellowship, efficiency and ability.

**James Bergan** pays no divided loyalty to Clayton county, Iowa, though he claims Macoupin county, Illinois, as the place of his birth, which there occurred on the 27th of July, 1862. He has been

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EMBERT BERGEMEYER

a resident of Clayton county since he was a child of about four years and here he is now associated with his brother John in the ownership of one of the large and splendidly improved farms of Sperry township, where they stand forth as enterprising and influential exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in this favored section of the Hawkeye state. The parents, Patrick and Elizabeth (Stulley) Bergan were born and reared in Ireland and came to the United States in 1848. They continued their residence in Illinois until 1866, when they came to Clayton county, Iowa, and settled on a farm in Highland township. There they passed the remainder of their lives, earnest, kindly and upright folk who won independence through their own endeavors and who commanded the high regard of the community in which they long lived and labored, both having been communicants of the Catholic church. Of the eight children six still survive the honored parents. James Bergan was reared on the old homestead farm and gained his early education in the schools of Highland township. He remained at home until the death of his parents and he and his brother John then purchased the farm upon which they and their families now reside, the same comprising a fine estate of two hundred and forty-five acres, in section 16, Sperry township, and the brothers having improved the property with substantial and essentially modern buildings. They are associated also in the ownership of twenty acres of land within the corporate limits of the village of Volga. James Bergan has been loyal and liberal in the support of measures and enterprises tending to advance the communal welfare, is a staunch Democrat in politics but has never been imbued with any ambition for public office. He and his wife are zealous communicants of the Catholic church, and prior to her marriage Mrs. Bergan has been a successful and popular teacher in the district schools of Clayton county. They have no children. In 1912 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bergan to Miss Katherine Minihan, who was born in Highland township, this county, in the year 1870, and whose parents, Patrick and Mary (Gaynor) Minihan, were well known and highly esteemed citizens of this county at the time of their death, both having been born in Ireland and having been children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Minihan became the parents of seven children, all of whom are living except one.

**Embert Bergemeyer**, the present efficient and popular sheriff of Clayton county is a Norwegian by birth but a thorough American at heart. He was born in the city of Christiania, Norway, June 8th, 1877, the son of Elias Bergemeyer. He came to America with his parents, landing in New York July 14, 1888, and the family came at once to McGregor, where they had relatives among the early Norwegian pioneers. As a lad he worked on the farm and attended the rural schools of Clayton and Mendon townships. His has been a life of hard work and his younger days he spent farming and threshing in the northern part of the county. He was married in 1899 to Miss Anna Allen of McGregor and to them one son, Clinton

Bergemeyer was born. The death of his wife ended this happy union. On November 24th, 1903, he was married to Miss Sarah Margaret Bertsinger of McGregor and they have a charming daughter, Marjorie Regina. For a number of years Mr. Bergemeyer was in the drayage and ice business at McGregor which business he sold in 1908. For five years he was city marshal of McGregor and also a constable for Mendon township. It was his efficiency as peace officer and his genial good-heartedness which makes him highly popular with all the men, that led to his nomination for sheriff on the Democratic ticket in 1910. There were three candidates in the primary election, Mr. Bergemeyer winning by a plurality of thirty-six votes. At the election, however, in November, 1910, he defeated his opponent, Doug. Brown, by a majority of 1,078. In the primary of 1912 he had no opposition and in the election of that year he received one of the largest majorities ever given a candidate for sheriff, being elected over Frank Wood, Republican, by a majority of 1,764. Again, in 1914, he had no opposition in his own party at the primary and he was elected by a majority almost as large, he receiving 1,689 more votes than his opponent, J. P. Hurley, the Republican candidate. In the primary of 1916 there was a four-cornered fight in which Mr. Bergemeyer was the winner by 125 over his nearest opponent, and he is at present the Democratic nominee for sheriff. There is no question but that he has been a faithful, efficient and capable officer and a worthy successor to such men as James Davis, W. A. Benton, E. E. Benton, Martin Dittmer, and others who have made Clayton county noted for its excellent sheriffs. During the year of 1915 from some unknown cause a fire broke out in the roof of the county jail which is also the sheriff's residence, and at this time he lost a large portion of his household goods. As an officer, Mr. Bergemeyer has been eminently successful. There have been no jail deliveries during his term and all the work of his office has been attended to promptly and with courtesy, but with due firmness and proper regard for law. While, fortunately, there have been no serious crimes committed in the county during the past few years where the criminals were unknown, nevertheless Mr. Bergemeyer is entitled to much credit for his clever detective work in a number of instances. One clever capture, due largely to his detective ability was the breaking up of an arson gang which set fire to a new residence in the eastern part of the county in 1913. Mr. Bergemeyer followed the clues in the case and succeeded not only in capturing those guilty of this crime but in unearthing the burning of the Hagen barn in which horses and live stock were ruthlessly burned to death. Mr. Bergemeyer is one of the best liked men in Clayton county. He is capable, both physically and mentally, for the exacting office which he holds, and while he is inexorable in the performance of his duty, he has a kindness of heart and a sympathy for his fellows which makes him an ideal officer. He has taken an active part in all civic movements at McGregor and Elkader and throughout the county, and his friends predict that he will be triumphantly elected this fall.



**Ernest A. Bergman.**—A progressive and popular citizen of McGregor, which has represented his home from the time of his birth, holds place as one of the sterling business men of his native city, with a circle of friends that is limited only by that of his acquaintances. With recognized eligibility, Mr. Bergman appeared in the spring of 1916 as a candidate for nomination for the office of sheriff of Clayton county, on the Democratic ticket, and the result of the primary election was that he was defeated by 41 votes. Mr. Bergman was born at McGregor on the 12th of November, 1875, and is a son of Frederick and Margaret (Daubenberger) Bergman, both of whom were born in Germany. Frederick Bergman immigrated to the United States when a young man and for a time maintained his residence in the State of Pennsylvania, whence he removed in an early day to Wisconsin and established his residence at LaCrosse, where he remained about two years. In 1865 he numbered himself among the pioneer settlers at McGregor, Iowa, where for many years he successfully conducted a meat market, though he lived virtually retired for a number of years prior to his death, which occurred in May, 1910, the wife of his youth having passed away in 1874, and their children having been ten in number: Frederick, the first-born, is deceased; Frank still maintains his home at McGregor; Henry is deceased; Edward resides at McGregor; Albert is deceased; Ernest A., of this review, was the next in order of birth; William likewise maintains his home at McGregor; Odilda is the wife of John A. Walters, of McGregor; and Misses May and Charlotte still reside in their native place. Continuing his studies in the public schools until he had duly profited by the advantages of the McGregor high school, Ernest A. Bergman then became associated with the operation of his father's meat market, and later he was engaged in the hotel business at McGregor for a period of about five years. He then resumed his connection with the meat-market business, of which he has since continued a prominent and successful representative in his native place. He has been a zealous supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and an active worker in its local ranks, though he never appeared as a candidate for public office until he announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for sheriff of his native county, in the spring of 1916. He is affiliated with the local organizations of the Masonic fraternity, the Woodmen of the World, and the Modern Brotherhood of America. On the 22d of August, 1913, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bergman to Mrs. Clara (Nelson) Elder, widow of Howard Elder and daughter of Nels Nelson. By her first marriage Mrs. Bergman has one son, Howard.

**Theodore Berns** became the owner of the fine old homestead on which he was born, in Jefferson township, and long held precedence as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of his native county. He still retains possession of his fine landed estate, but since 1910 he has lived virtually retired in the little city of Guttenberg, where he erected a fine brick residence which has since been his place of abode and which is one of the most modern

and attractive homes in this part of the county. Mr. Berns was born in Jefferson township on the 6th of November, 1860, and is a son of Theodore and Mary Berns, who were born in Prussia and who became sterling pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, where they continued to reside on their old homestead farm until their death, both having been zealous communicants of the Catholic church and the father having been a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. Theodore Berns was reared and educated in his native land and came to the United States and to Clayton county, Iowa, about the year 1845. He purchased a small tract of land in Jefferson township and by his indefatigable energy and excellent business ability he achieved substantial success, as indicated in his accumulation of one of the large and valuable landed estates of Jefferson township. Of the children the eldest two, Herman and Peter, now reside at Garnavillo, this county; Mary is deceased; Theodore, Jr., of this review, was the fourth child; Joseph resides at National, this county; Henry is a substantial farmer of Jefferson township; and Yetta is deceased. Theodore Berns, Jr., was favored in having the advantages not only of the district schools of Jefferson township but also those of the excellent Catholic parochial schools at Guttenberg. His entire active career was marked by close association with the work and management of the old homestead farm upon which he was born and into the ownership of which he came when he was about 14 years of age, by purchasing the interests of the other heirs. This fine rural domain comprises seven hundred and ten acres and is one of the more extensive and valuable farm properties of Clayton county, with permanent improvements of an order that mark it as a veritable model. While on the farm Mr. Berns gave special attention to the raising of high-grade live stock, including Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China swine. He was known for his distinctive energy, progressiveness and good judgment and made himself known as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of this section of the Hawkeye state, the while his well ordered enterprise gained to him large and substantial prosperity. He has always taken loyal interest in community affairs of a public order, is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party but he has never been deflected from his course by aught of ambition for political office. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, as was also his first wife, and he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, as a member of a splendid lodge in the city of Dubuque. April 16, 1887, recorded the marriage of Mr. Bern to Miss Mary Lueck, daughter of Henry and Mary Lueck, of Guttenberg, and she survived her marriage by only four years, as she passed to the life eternal on the 8th of October, 1891. Mary, the one child of this marriage, is now the wife of John Hoeger, of Jefferson township. On the 16th of February, 1894, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Berns to Miss Clara Lueck, daughter of Benjamin Lueck, of New Union, Iowa, and of the six children of this union all remain at the parental home except the youngest, Elizabeth, who died in childhood. The names of the children of



the attractive home circle are here designated in respective order of birth; Edward, Hilda, Raymond, Melania and Eugenia.

**James M. Berry** owns and conducts the Berry Hotel at North McGregor, and has proved himself one of the efficient and popular exponents of this line of enterprise in Clayton county. His hotel caters to a large and appreciative patronage and is maintained at a high standard of excellence, while he has a wide circle of friends among the traveling public as well as in his home county. He is one of the substantial and progressive citizens of the county and is well entitled to representation in this publication. Mr. Berry is a scion of fine old Irish stock in both the paternal and maternal lines and claims the Badger State as the place of his nativity. He was born in Waukeshaw, Wisconsin, on the 16th of November, 1868, and is a son of John and Bridget Berry, both of whom were born in Ireland and both of whom were children at the time of the immigration of the respective families from the Emerald Isle to America. The marriage of the parents was solemnized in Waukeshaw, Wisconsin, and they removed to Prairie du Chien when the subject of this sketch was but one year of age. Later they moved to North McGregor, where the mother passed into the other life December 31, 1915, after a residence in North McGregor of twenty-two years. The venerable father is still alert and vigorous of mind and body, and now has the distinction of being the oldest employee of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. Co., he having given a life time of faithful service to this great corporation. He maintains his home at North McGregor, and of his nine children, six are living. James M. Berry was a lad of ten years at the time of the family removal from Wisconsin to Allamakee county, Iowa, and he was there reared at Waukon, the county seat. In 1885, while still in his teens, he made his way largely by stage coach, to the Black Hills of South Dakota, and for three years followed the free and invigorating life of a cowboy. With the advent of the railroad, he embarked in the restaurant business at Oelrichs, South Dakota, and subsequently at Hot Springs, and he has been engaged in the restaurant and hotel business since that time. The winters of 1891 and 92 were spent as clerk in the hotel San Marino, "South-erland," Florida. He was engaged in hotel business at Chicago during the World's Fair and, on August 27, 1894, he purchased from the late Charles Huffschnitt the furniture and lease of the C., M. & St. P. R. R. hotel and lunchroom at North McGregor, which he successfully conducted for fourteen years. Careful and effective service brought to him decisive success and he finally erected the handsome three-story brick hotel that bears his name and that is conducted by him according to the most approved modern standards. This hotel has the unique distinction of being the most valuable property of the kind in a town of less than six hundred population in the United States that is conducted on the European plan. The hotel is well equipped in all departments and has a large and representative patronage, being especially in favor with the commercial travelers who have occasion to visit Northeastern Iowa. Adjacent to the village Mr. Berry owns a well im-



proved farm of fifty-seven acres, besides which he is the owner of a good farm in Allamakee county. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, which he has served as precinct committeeman for the past fifteen years, and he is now a member of the Democratic State Finance Committee. For fifteen years also he has been a member of the City Council of North McGregor. Broad-gauged and progressive in his civic attitude, Mr. Berry has been especially prominent and influential in the promotion of the National Park which it is hoped to have established near North McGregor, on the shores of the Mississippi River. It is not too much to say that he has been foremost in the agitation of this important project, and has spent much of his time and means bringing it before the State and nation. In recognition of his ability and enthusiasm in this matter, he has been made chairman of the Executive and Publicity Committee of the Mississippi Valley National Park Association. He is also interested in the good roads movement and is superintendent of the northern division of the Eastern Iowa Scenic Highway, and is a committeeman of the Upper Mississippi River Improvement Association. In the city of Dubuque he holds membership in the lodge of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. In his youth he attended St. Johns, now Campion College at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and in later years, in recognition of many sterling qualities, he was made an honorary alumnus of that famous school. In the city of Chicago, on the 16th of October, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Berry to Miss Anna D. Brophy, who was born and reared in Clayton county, Iowa, and who is a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Sweeney) Brophy. She received excellent educational advantages in her youth and graduated from St. Mary's Academy at Prairie du Chien, Wis.; both she and her husband being communicants of the Catholic Church. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have four children, Donald John, James Stanton, Margaret Virginia and Elizabeth Marie.

**Hiram C. Bishop** has wielded large influence in the forming and directing of popular sentiment and action in Clayton county, both through his services in public office and through his editorial utterances as in the columns of the Clayton County Democrat, of which representative paper of northeastern Iowa he was the founder and of which he is still editor and publisher. He served with marked efficiency and progressiveness as superintendent of schools of Clayton county for six years and later represented his district in the Iowa State Senate for two successive sessions. He gained definite prestige in the pedagogic profession, of which he continued as a representative for a long period and as an exponent of which he first came to Clayton county. The former Senator is a native of northeastern Iowa and stands definitely exemplar of the fine element of citizenship that has made this one of the most advanced and opulent portions of the Hawkeye commonwealth. He is a scion of an honored pioneer family of Iowa and this fact emphasizes the consistency of according to him a special tribute in this publication, for it has been his to lend much of distinction to a name that has been signally prominent in this part of Iowa since

the time when this portion of our great national domain was virtually on the very frontier. Hiram Crusan Bishop was born on a farm near West Union, the judicial center of Fayette county, Iowa, on the 10th of March, 1852, and is a son of Franklin Park Bishop and Cynthia Ann (Commack) Bishop, the former of whom was born in Kentucky, on the 31st of March, 1818, and the latter of whom was born in Virginia, on the 18th of June, 1819, she having been a child at the time of her parents' removal to Kentucky, where she was reared and educated and where her marriage to Mr. Bishop was solemnized. In the year 1839 Franklin P. Bishop came with his family from the old Bluegrass State to Iowa and became one of the early pioneers of Fayette county, where he obtained a tract of government land, near West Union, and where he eventually reclaimed one of the valuable farms of the county. As a man of sterling character and strong mentality, he was an influential figure in connection with the social and material development and upbuilding of Fayette county, and both he and his wife were venerable and revered pioneer citizens of that county at the time of their death, he having passed away in 1902 and she in 1909. Both were zealous members of the Baptist church and in politics he was first a Whig and later a Democrat. Their marriage was solemnized in the year 1839 and they became the parents of twelve children, whose names are here recorded in the respective order of birth: Susan Mary, James Thomas, Sarah Ann, Elizabeth Matilda, William Hamilton, Hiram Crusan, Solomon Wayne, Sabitha Jane, Martha Catherine, Eliza Adelaide, Harry Wilson, and Franklin. Of the children six sons and three daughters are now living. The vigilant and resourceful pioneers of Iowa early made the best possible provisions for the education of their children, and it is matter of record that there have been few states in the Union that have continuously maintained so low a percentage of illiteracy. Thus it was the privilege of Hon. Hiram C. Bishop, the immediate subject of this review, to receive in his youth the best of scholastic advantages. He was reared under the invigorating influences of the home farm and while contributing his quota to its work he applied himself diligently to his studies in the district school near his home until he was eligible for the initiating of higher academic study. At West Union he attended Ainsworth Academy, and after leaving this institution he prosecuted his studies in Upper Iowa University, at Fayette. He put his scholastic attainments to effective test and utilization by entering the pedagogic profession, in which he gained unequivocal success and popularity. He taught seven terms in the rural or district schools and thirty-one terms in town public schools, in which connection his services finally became enlisted in Clayton county. That he made his benignant influence felt in connection with educational affairs in this county needs no further voucher than the statement that he served from January 1, 1888, to January 1, 1894, as county superintendent of schools, his administration having been diligent in advancing the general standard of the work of the schools and by progressive policies that did much to conserve this end. Mr. Bishop has always been a stalwart

advocate of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stand sponsor, and he has given yeoman service in furtherance of its cause in northeastern Iowa. He served as a member of the State senate from 1900 to 1905, and was recognized as one of the dominating figures in the deliberations on the floor of the upper house and in the councils of the various committees to which he was assigned. On the 4th of July, 1893, he founded the Clayton County Democrat, at Elkader, the judicial center of the county, and during the intervening period of nearly a quarter of a century he has maintained for his representative paper a high standard as an exponent of local interests and a director of popular sentiment. He and his wife are members of the Universalist church of Elkader, and he is affiliated with the local organizations of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. June 14, 1882, recorded the marriage of Mr. Bishop to Miss Emma Kern, who was born at Elgin, Fayette county, this state, on the 13th of March, 1864, and the four children of this union are: Arthur C., Max B., Clint G., and Ruth. All of the children were graduated in the Elkader high school, in which the only daughter was a member of the class of 1916, besides being also a graduate of St. Joseph's Musical School at Elkader. All of the sons maintain editorial association with newspaper publishing, and Max and Clint are graduates of the law department of Drake University, in the city of Des Moines.

**Verner F. Blake** is one of the popular and influential business men of the younger generation in his native county, and in the thriving village of Volga he has for the past fifteen years had the control and management of the well-established furniture and undertaking business that was founded by his mother, who is now one of the honored and venerable pioneer citizens of this county. Verner F. Blake was born in Sperry township, Clayton county, Iowa, on the 3d of March, 1880, and is a son of Morris L. and Cynthia C. (Hawthorne) Blake, the former of whom was born in the state of Vermont and the latter of whom was born in Clayton county, Iowa, where her parents settled in the very early pioneer days. Morris L. Blake came to this county when a young man, has been prominent in connection with business and civic affairs and is now living virtually retired in the village of Volga. He and his wife became the parents of four children, all of whom are living, and both Mr. and Mrs. Blake are well known and highly esteemed pioneer citizens of Clayton county. In the public school Verner F. Blake continued his studies until he had completed the curriculum of the high school, and since leaving school he has been actively associated with the prosperous furniture and undertaking business of which he now has the sole management. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, he and his wife attend and support the Presbyterian church in their home village, and for the past twelve years he has been giving most loyal and efficient service as a member of the village council of Volga, his political allegiance being given to the Republican party. On the 11th of January, 1905, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Blake to Miss Elsa Wal-



tenbaugh, who was born in Howard county, this state, and who is a daughter of James E. and Caroline (Perkins) Waltenbaugh, who now maintain their home at Rockford, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Blake have two sons, Russell Eugene, who was born October 9, 1906; and Merton James, who was born September 26, 1915.

**Sven Blockhus.**—In a spot far removed from the fair Northland in which he was born, a scion of a long line of sturdy and upright Norse ancestors, it has been given to Sven Blockhus to achieve through his own ability and efforts the well earned rewards of independence and definite prosperity. He is one of the enterprising and successful farmers of Marion township, where he exemplifies excellent judgment and progressiveness in the carrying on of his diversified agricultural operations and in the raising of good grades of live stock, and he is a sterling citizen who is entitled to definite recognition in this history of the Hawkeye state. Mr. Blockhus was born in Norway, on the 30th of November, 1872, and is a son of Ole and Mary Blockhus, the former of whom passed his entire life in Norway, where he followed the mason's trade, his widow having continued at the old home since his death. Of their eleven children all are living except one and seven of the number are residents of America. The subject of this sketch gained his early education in the schools of his native land and remained at the parental home until he was fifteen years of age, when he found employment at farm work. To this vocation he applied himself until he had attained to the age of nineteen years, when he came to the United States and made Iowa his destination. In the early period of his residence here he found employment on farms in Fayette and Clayton counties during the summer months and gave evidence of his ambition and good judgment by attending school during the winter terms for the purpose of gaining effective knowledge of the English language and otherwise extending his education. During two winters he was a zealous and appreciative student in Breckenridge Institute, at Decorah. Applying himself diligently to the work to which he set his hand, Mr. Blockhus carefully saved his earning and finally, in 1900, he was able to institute independent operations as a farmer. He purchased in that year his present farm, which comprises one hundred and forty-one and one-half acres and which is situated in section 7, Marion township. Here he has since continued his vigorous and successful activities as a general farmer, and he made his place give forth patent evidence of thrift and prosperity. He is a man of strong mentality and well fortified opinions, is a Republican in politics, and has served six years as justice of the peace, besides which he has been assessor of Marion township since 1914. Both he and his wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. On the 13th of March, 1903, Mr. Blockhus wedded Miss Gina Holt, and they have six children, all of whom remain at the parental home—Ida, Otto, Severin, Bessie, Fridjof and Herbert.

**Albert Boleyn.**—In America the true patent of nobility that is viewed with the greatest respect is that held by the man who has depended upon his own powers and exertions in making his way to

the goal of worthy success, and such achievement has significantly characterized the career of Albert Boleyn, who became virtually dependent upon his own resources when he was a mere boy and who has pressed forward to the mark of large and well ordered prosperity. The evidences of his temporal success are shown in his ownership of one of the large and well improved landed estates of Clayton county, by his prominence as a buyer and shipper of live stock on a large scale and by his being a stockholder and director of the Volga Savings Bank, with which he has been thus identified from the time of its organization. He is one of the substantial and honored citizens of Clayton county, a man whose life has been guided and governed by integrity and resolute purpose, and none is more clearly entitled to recognition in this history. Mr. Boleyn was born on a farm near Wadena, Fayette county, Iowa, on the 17th of December, 1866, and is the eldest of the three children born to Joseph and Mary (Poor) Boleyn, both natives of Pennsylvania. The second child, Amelia, is now the wife of Frank Jones, of Oelwein, Fayette county; and the third child, Inez, died in infancy. The subject of this review was not yet three years old at the time of his mother's death, which occurred in May, 1869, and his father continued to reside in Fayette county until his death, at the age of about sixty years. Joseph Boleyn was a young man at the time when he came from the old Keystone state and numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Fayette county, Iowa, where he was long actively identified with agricultural pursuits, as one of the substantial farmers of the county, and he passed the closing years of his life in the village of Oelwein, where he died on the 8th of April, 1904. Albert Boleyn may consistently be said to have been graduated in the college of his own practical and varied experiences, and such were the exigencies of time and place that in his youth he was enabled to attend the schools of his native county in only a desultory way. When but seven years of age he began to provide for his own maintenance, and his early compensation for his work on a farm was the princely stipend of five dollars a month. During the summer seasons he thus worked for wages during his boyhood and youth, and in the winters he worked for his board and availed himself of the privilege of attending the district schools. On the 21st of September, 1886, about three months prior to his twentieth birthday anniversary, he married Miss Margaret Lowe, the devoted young woman who was to be his helpmeet and zealous coadjutor in his efforts to achieve independence and enduring prosperity, she having been born and reared in Clayton county, where their marriage was solemnized and where they have maintained their home during the long intervening years. During the first year after his marriage Mr. Boleyn was employed at farm work by his wife's father and he then purchased one hundred and fourteen acres of land in Sperry township, where he instituted his independent operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower. It will not strain the imaginative powers to appreciate that in the years that followed in their course Mr. Boleyn was found applying his energies with unstinted zeal and circumspection, with the result that increasing

prosperity attended his efforts and he was able to make appreciable advancement. All this is most clearly demonstrated in his ownership at the present time of a finely improved landed estate of three hundred and fifty-six acres, in Sperry and Highland townships, where he has long stood well to the front as one of the most progressive and energetic agriculturists and stock-growers of this county. Though he still gives his general supervision to the operations of his farm property he and his devoted wife have maintained their home in the village of Volga since October 17, 1906, when they took possession of their newly erected and modern residence, which is one of the most attractive in the village, with fine grounds comprising an entire block, and with a genuine hospitality that equals its physical charm. Since his retirement from the farm Mr. Boleyn has not permitted his energies and activities to wane, as he has developed a large and prosperous business in the buying and shipping of live stock. The extent of his operations along this important line of industrial and commercial enterprise may be appreciated the better when it is stated that during the months of August and September, 1915, he bought and shipped stock to the value of \$127,576, the incidental financial transactions having been effected through the medium of the Volga Savings Bank, of which, as previously noted, he has been a stockholder and director from the time of its incorporation. Mr. Boleyn is a stalwart advocate of the cause of the Republican party and while he has not been troubled by office-seeking proclivities he has given most effective service in the position of justice of the peace. He is affiliated with the Modern Brotherhood of America and both he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Volga, of which he is a trustee. David and Elizabeth (Dempster) Lowe, the venerable parents of Mrs. Boleyn now maintain their home at Volga and are honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county. Of their children Mrs. Boleyn is the eldest; Daniel likewise resides at Volga; Clarence, Harry and Susana are deceased. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Boleyn all remain at the parental home except the third, Walter M., who was born August 21, 1896, and whose death occurred November 21, 1898. The names and respective birth-dates of the surviving children are here noted: Benjamin H., July 15, 1888; David E., November 4, 1891; Vena, September 21, 1898; and Neva, September 11, 1903.

**Henry C. Bothmer** is able and gratified to pay to the Hawkeye state the allegiance and loyalty of a native son and he has been a resident of Clayton county since his childhood, being one of the six surviving children of a family of seven born to Henry and Caroline (Lozier) Bothmer, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, whence they immigrated to America in 1852 and were married in Pennsylvania. The parents first established their home in Pennsylvania, but a few years later they came to Iowa and numbered themselves among the pioneers of Fayette county. At Westfield, that county, as a practical miller by trade, the father operated one of the pioneer flour mills of northeastern Iowa, and a few years later he came with his family to Clayton county and assumed charge



of the mill in the village of Clayton, where he passed the residue of his life, his wife having died here also. He whose name introduces this article was reared to manhood in Clayton county, availed himself consistently of the privileges afforded in the public schools of the locality and period, and as a youth he initiated his independent career by assuming a position as clerk in a general store at Clayton. Here he later engaged independently in the farm implement business, and since about 1885 he has given the major part of his time and attention to the buying and shipping of live stock, of which important line of industrial enterprise he is one of the prominent, successful and popular representatives in this section of the state, his operations involving the shipping of an average of sixty carloads of live stock each year. In addition to owning a fine modern residence at Clayton and a farm of thirty acres in Clayton township, this county, Mr. Bothmer has a valuable tract of seven hundred and forty acres of land in the State of Michigan and a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota. He has manifested no desire for public office or political activity, but gives his support in national and state affairs to the Democratic party. At Garnavillo he is affiliated with Garnavillo Lodge, No. 90, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and his wife is a communicant of the Lutheran church, which he attends and supports. In 1888 Mr. Bothmer wedded Miss Kate Specht, who was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, and who is a daughter of Herman and Sarah (Spiese) Specht, both now deceased. Of the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Bothmer the second child, a daughter, died in infancy; Benjamin H. is now a resident of Montana; and Clyde H. is employed as a clerk in a Clayton mercantile establishment.

**Jackson E. Bowman** is one of the alert and popular young business men of his native county and is now the general manager of the well ordered department store conducted at Volga by the firm of Pohl & Bink. He was born in Mallory township, this county, on the 18th of June, 1888, and is a son of Silas and Martha (Walters) Bowman, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and the latter of whom was born in Clayton county, a member of one of the sterling pioneer families of this favored section of the Hawkeye state. Silas Bowman came to Clayton county when a young man and was one of the substantial farmers and honored and influential citizens of Mallory township at the time of his death, which occurred on the 24th of June, 1912. He was a Democrat in politics and his religious faith was that of the Congregational church, of which his widow, now a resident of Guttenberg, this county, likewise is a zealous member. Walter, the eldest of the five children, is now a resident of Cedar Bluff, Nebraska; Frank died in childhood; the subject of this review was the third in order of birth; Leroy resides at Guttenberg; and Dolly is the wife of August Bendschmidt, of Elkport, this county. Jackson E. Bowman furthered his preparation for the active duties and responsibilities of life by making good use of the advantages afforded in the excellent public schools at Guttenberg, and as a youth he found employment in the grocery store of A. W. Latta, at Osterdock. After being

thus engaged about one year he there entered the employ of the firm of Walters & Company, engaged in the general merchandise business, and about a year later he there assumed a clerical position in the general store of John Mosher, with whom he remained about three months. With marked circumspection and judgment he then decided to advance himself in fitness for business life by taking a course in a commercial college in the city of Cedar Rapids, and he there continued his studies eight months. He applied himself with characteristic diligence and appreciation and after having thus more effectually equipped himself for executive service he entered the employ of the representative mercantile firm of Pohl & Bink, of whose well equipped general merchandise or department store at Volga he has been manager since May 26, 1915, the enterprise having most signally prospered under his careful and progressive direction. Mr. Bowman is found aligned with the Democratic party and both he and his wife hold membership in the Congregational church at Volga, the while they are popular factors in the representative social life of their home community. On the 24th of August, 1914, Mr. Bowman wedded Miss Ida Neihaus, who was born and reared in this county, and their one child, Ruth, was born January 2, 1915.

**Warren A. Boynton** is one of the representative farmers of the younger generation in Clayton county and is known for his civic and industrial progressiveness and for his vigorous mentality and well fortified opinions. He shows a high sense of personal stewardship in connection with community interests and is one of the well known and distinctively popular citizens of Clayton county, within whose borders the major part of his life has been passed. Warren Adelbert Boynton was born in Grundy county, Iowa, on the 1st of December, 1879, and is a son of Charles Henry and Sarah Ellen (Cole) Boynton, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Iowa, where her parents settled in the early pioneer days. Charles H. Boynton was the son of Charles Sherman Boynton, who was born at Rodman, New York, January 16, 1822, and who died at the home of his son at Strawberry Point, May 27, 1916, at the age of ninety-four years, five months, eleven days. In 1856, he came with his wife Clarissa and his family to Iowa and settled five miles east of Strawberry Point on the farm now owned by his son Charles H. and operated by his grandson Warren A. Boynton. Charles H. Boynton, the father of the subject of this sketch, came with his parents to Iowa in 1856, and resided in Clayton county until his marriage. He then settled on a farm in Grundy county, after having resided for two years in Clay county, and he continued his activities as a successful farmer in Grundy county for seventeen years. In 1890 he purchased the farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Clayton county, this being the old homestead farm situated in Section 20, Lodomillo township. Of the children of Charles H. and Sarah Ellen Boynton, the first born, a daughter, died at the time of birth; Charles D. now resides near the city of Spokane, Washington; Alma M. is the wife of George Maresh, M. D., of Riverside, Iowa; Raymond Scepter, a talented artist, maintains his



home at San Francisco, Cal.; and the sixth child, a daughter, died in infancy; Warren A., of this review, having been the third in order of birth. After having gained due preliminary discipline in the rural schools, Warren A. Boynton supplemented this by an effective course in the High School at Strawberry Point. That he made good use of his educational opportunities is indicated by the fact that he became a successful teacher in the district schools of Clayton county. He continued as a popular representative of the pedagogic profession for one year, and he passed the ensuing two years on a farm in Grundy county. Upon his return to Clayton county he assumed the management of his father's farm in Lodomillo township, and after two years he married and removed to Wisconsin. He remained in that state only nine months, and since that time he has had the active management of his father's farm in Lodomillo township, where he has successfully given his attention to diversified agriculture and the raising of fine live stock. Mr. Boynton is not constrained by strict partisan lines in politics but gives his support to the men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment, his attitude thus being that of an independent voter. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America; both he and his wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On the 5th of April, 1904, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Boynton to Miss Agnes Judett, who was born at Central City, Linn county, Iowa, and their six children are Charles Floyd, Ellen Margaret, Hazel, Adel, Howard Raymond, Edwin Russell, Faith.

**Elmer H. Brandt** has given distinctive evidence of his progressiveness and good judgment in connection with the ownership and operation of one of the fine farms of his native county, for the major part of the splendid improvements on the place has been made by him and the pervasive atmosphere of thrift and prosperity marks the owner as a man of energy and enterprise. Mr. Brandt was born in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 5th of November, 1890, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Nieman) Brandt, who are now living retired in the village of Garnavillo, both being natives of Germany. Henry Brandt was a boy at the time of the family immigration to America and his parents became early pioneer settlers of Clayton county, where they passed the remainder of their lives and where he himself gave his entire active career to effective operations as a farmer and stock-grower, through the medium of which industries he gained the success that enables him and his wife to pass the gracious twilight of their lives in peace and prosperity. He is a Republican in his political adherence and both he and his wife are devoted communicants of the Lutheran church. Elmer H. Brandt was reared on the home farm and after completing the curriculum of the district schools he continued his studies in turn in the Garnavillo high school, took a business course and an agricultural course. After reaching his legal majority he became associated with his brother Louis H. in the management of the home farm, and three years later he removed to his present fine farm, of which he is the owner and which comprises two hundred



and nine acres, in section 7 and 12, Garnavillo township. Though he gives his attention to diversified agriculture and utilizes the most approved scientific methods in this connection, Mr. Brandt has specialized in the raising of high grade cattle of the Shorthorn type and has made this department of his farm enterprise notably productive in financial returns. He is a Republican in politics and is serving as secretary of the school board of his district. On the 11th of February, 1914, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Brandt to Miss Laura M. Kregel, daughter of Edward W. Kregel, concerning whom detailed mention is made on other pages of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Brandt are the parents of a fine pair of twin sons, Gerald and Harold, who were born on the 9th of October, 1915. Mrs. Brandt has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of her birth, attended the Garnavillo high school and both she and her husband have a host of loyal friends in their home county.

**Louis H. Brandt** is admirably proving his resourcefulness and progressive policies as a representative of agricultural and livestock industry in his native county, and it is gratifying to record that he has the direct control and management of the fine old homestead farm on which he was born and reared and which is now known as Sunny View Farm. This admirably improved landed estate is situated in section 24, Garnavillo township, and comprises three hundred and four acres of as fine land as is to be found in this favored section of the Hawkeye state. Mr. Brandt's unwavering loyalty to and appreciation of his native county are manifested not only in his active and successful association with its agricultural interests but also by his enterprise and public spirit as a citizen. He is aligned firmly and consistently with the Republican party and his personal popularity in the community which has ever represented his home is definitely signified by the fact that in 1916 he is found serving as township clerk and as school director of his district. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of St. Paul's Lutheran church at Garnavillo. Louis H. Brandt was born June 23, 1886, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Nieman) Brandt, both of whom were born in Germany and both of whom are living in gracious comfort and retirement in the village of Garnavillo, secure in the high esteem of all who know them. Henry Brandt was but a boy at the time when he came with his parents from Germany to America, and soon afterward the family home was established in Clayton county, where he was reared to manhood under the conditions and influences of the pioneer days and where he eventually gained a place of prominence as one of the representative farmers of the county. Both he and his wife, now venerable in years, are devout communicants of the Lutheran church and he has given unwavering allegiance to the Republican party. Of the eight children, two sons and six daughters, all are living, save one daughter who died in infancy. Louis H. Brandt early began to lend his aid in the work of the home farm and in the meanwhile he made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county, his educational discipline thereafter being effectively supplemented by a two years' course in the college of agri-

culture of the great University of Wisconsin, at Madison. He has continuously been identified with the operations of the fine farmstead on which he was born, and he assumed charge of the same shortly after his marriage, which occurred on November 23, 1910, when he was twenty-four years of age. As a farmer and stock-grower he has fully upheld and even added to the high reputation long sustained by his honored father, and he is essentially one of the broad-minded, energetic and progressive exponents of these basic lines of industry in his native county. He has been distinctively successful in the breeding and raising of full-blood Short-horn cattle, to which branch of farm enterprise he is giving special attention. In the year 1910 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Brandt to Miss Amanda Matt, who was born and reared in Farmersburg township, this county, where her father, Joseph Matt, is still actively identified with agricultural pursuits, the mother having passed to eternal rest when about 35 years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Brandt have two fine little sons—Valmah H. and Robert J.

**Harrison Douglas Brown**, familiarly known to all as "Doug." Brown, is a native Iowan, born in McGregor, June 24, 1861, and was the son of Mathias J. Brown, born in New York State and Bertha (Amundson) Brown, a native of Norway. They came to McGregor in Clayton county about 1850, where the father followed the trade of plasterer until his death June 3, 1885. The wife survived her husband ten years, dying September 19, 1895. They were the parents of seven children. Clara, the oldest living child, is the wife of John R. Rallton of St. Louis; George W. resides in Lakeport, Florida; Douglas, the subject of this sketch; Bertha, deceased; Alma, who is now Mrs. George Heilma of McGregor; and Cyrus, deceased. Douglas Brown received his elementary education in the McGregor public schools, but at the age of thirteen he was obliged to give up his studies and begin the making of his own way in the world. In 1877, he, together with his brother, went to Minnesota, where for three years he was employed by a railroad company. Abandoning railroading as a business, he went to McGregor, Iowa, in 1882, where he took up the tinner's trade, engaging in that work until 1884, spending two years in McGregor and three in Elkader. At the end of that time he entered into business for himself, opening a hardware store, which is the oldest and most complete of its kind in Elkader, dealing in hardware and stoves of all descriptions, and which includes thoroughly up-to-date tinning and plumbing departments. He was united in marriage to Emma Heilman, May 11, 1886, a native of Clayton county, and the daughter of Jacob and Eliza (Schmidt) Heilman, both natives of Germany, but who immigrated into America in their early youth, joining the sturdy pioneer colonies which have done so much to place Iowa in the front rank of the states of our Union. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Brown have but one child remaining of the four that were born to them. Their first-born were twins, one of which died in infancy, and the other, Hazel, reached the age of eight years; and H. Douglas, the only survivor, is affectionately called "Doug., Jr." Mr. Brown takes an active interest in the affairs of the Republican party, of which he is a

member, and has served on the city council as alderman, and on the school board. He belongs to the Masonic Lodge, is a thirty-second degree member of the Ancient and Accepted Order of Scottish Rite, and affiliates with the Congregational church, in all of which he holds a deservedly high standing. Notwithstanding his varied time absorbing occupations, our subject finds opportunity to wield a poetic pen, and has given glimpses of the great pleasure afforded him in his favorite pursuit of railroading in several poems, entitled, "The Old Elkader Line"; "On the Old I. and D."; and "Beulah Land." While he claims no particular literary merit for these verses, yet the descriptions given in them are unexcelled and were read with great interest and appreciation by his many friends in Clayton county. He describes the pioneer experiences of Mr. V. R. Miller, an old pioneer, most aptly in a poem, a portion of which is quoted below:

When the deer and bear and wildcat roamed the forests at their will,  
And the voices of the Indians could be heard from hill to hill,  
As they called out to their comrades for to join them in their play  
Of romping, fishing and hunting just to pass the time away,  
When through the stillness of the midnight you heard the coyotes  
howl,

And it made you kind of shaky to hear the hooting of the owl.  
When around in the darkness stealthy shadows softly crept,  
As the wild beast of the forest prowled around you while you slept.

When Uncle Sam was fighting and had Mexico on the run,  
And before the California craze for gold had begun,  
Allured by far spread reports that Iowa's soil was best  
A young man left New England, and started for the west.

\* \* \* He has seen the ox-teams haul the wheat from a hundred  
miles away.

The old stage coach has come and gone, it too, has had its day.  
And all the big warehouses that once were on the shore,  
As they bulged with wheat and grain, clear to the door;  
With dressed pork on the river bank, and every kind of game;  
That was when the steamboat thrived before the railroad came.

**Herbert C. Brownson** is one of a family of three children, who own one of the fine landed estates of Clayton county, and the property includes the original old homestead which was obtained by their paternal grandfather in the early pioneer days when this now opulent section of the Hawkeye state was little more than an untrammelled wilderness. Herbert C. Brownson and his brother and sister own and reside upon the old homestead and as representatives of the third generation of the family in Clayton county they are well upholding the honors of a name that has been one representative of prominence and influence in connection with the civic



and industrial development and upbuilding of the county. The eldest of the three children is Miss Lois Brownson, who was graduated in the Fayette Business College and who is now the popular chataleine of the attractive home, the extensive farm being under the direct and effective management of her brothers, Herbert C. and Lloyd. Herbert C. Brownson was born on the farm which now represents his home and which comprises two hundred acres of most productive land, in Section 22 Farmersburg township. The date of his nativity was February 5, 1884, and he was the second in order of birth of the three children who remain on the old homestead. His parents, Freeman and Rachel (Datisman) Brownson, were natives respectively of the state of New York and of Germany, and the latter was a child at the time of her parents' immigration to the United States. Freeman Brownson was a youth at the time when his parents established their home amid the pioneer wilds of Clayton county, and here he and his wife continued to reside until their death. He inherited the pioneer homestead of his father, Daniel Brownson, who came to Clayton county in 1846 and who acquired in 1849 a homestead of forty acres that is now included in the fine landed domain owned by his grandchildren. Freeman Brownson was a man of vigor and industry, known for his sterling character and his mature judgment, and he added to the area of the old homestead until he had accumulated one of the valuable farm properties of the county, the same being represented in the splendid farm now owned and occupied by his three children. The Brownson brothers are known as progressive young agriculturists and stock-growers and are giving special attention to the raising of short-horn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine. Both give allegiance to the Democratic party and Herbert C., the immediate subject of this review, is now serving as treasurer of the school district in which he gained his early education. He and his brother and sister are still unwed and in the attractive home they are fully upholding its long maintained reputation for generous hospitality. All attend and support the Congregational church in the village of McGregor, which is their postoffice address.

**Jason D. Brownson.**—One of the professional men of Clayton county, who has gained for himself not only the esteem and good will of the people of his community, but a high place in the ranks of his chosen profession, is Dr. Jason D. Brownson of Monona. Dr. Brownson is a worthy son of one of the pioneers of the county who by his progressive ideas left a deep impress upon the agricultural developments and especially upon the live stock industry of his community. Throughout the history of Clayton county as recorded in the first volume of this work, frequent mention has been made of Freeman Brownson, as one who was prominent in county affairs, in the promotion of agricultural interests and in the importation of thoroughbred stock, thus aiding in the establishment of the reputation which Clayton county proudly holds, today, for the high standard which it maintains in the production of cattle, horses and swine. Freeman Brownson and his wife Lana (Flanagan) Brownson were both natives of the state of New York, and together

they came to Iowa at an early date and joined the colony of pioneers who were beginning that wonderful process of transformation which has made Clayton county the richest in Iowa. To Mr. Freeman Brownson must be given the credit of having imported the first thoroughbred Percheron horses ever owned in the county, and also of being the owner of the first full blood Poland-China hogs which the county had ever known. To this pioneer couple were born three children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eldest, and two died in infancy. The mother died in 1870, when Jason Brownson was but three years of age, and a few years later his father was again married to Miss Rachel Datisman, and to them seven children were born: Frank, Lucy, Ruben and Una (deceased), Lois, Herbert C. and Lloyd, all of whom reside in the county in the vicinity of National. Jason D. Brownson lived the life of the farm lad of his day, attended the public schools of the county and, being ambitious for a higher education and for professional training, after completing the course of study in the county schools, he matriculated in Cornell College at Mt. Vernon, Iowa, an institution which for many years has maintained the highest standard of excellence. From this institution he graduated in 1892, and to the excellent education there received Mr. Brownson added a course of four years' professional instruction in the famous Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois; here he received his professional degree, graduating with honor, in 1896, after which he immediately began the practice of his profession at Elkader. In 1900 he removed to the beautiful city of Monona and there for sixteen years he has continued in practice most successfully and has achieved not only a competency, but a high reputation both professionally and as a citizen. He was married September 5, 1895, to Miss Minnie Penman of Rockton, Illinois, and their delightful home is one of the social centers of Monona. Politically, Dr. Brownson has affiliated himself with the Democratic party and socially he is a member of high standing in the Masonic Order and in the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks.

**Parke Buckley** has the active supervision and management of a landed estate of five hundred acres, in section 19, Lodomillo township, and of this fine property—the splendid farm was accumulated and developed by his honored father—he owns through inheritance the major part, his personal holding comprising three hundred and sixty acres. On this model farmstead of the twentieth century Parke Buckley has resided from the time of his birth, which here occurred on the 10th of July, 1856, and the old homestead at that time was but a pioneer farm that was of far less extent than the present estate and that was in process of reclamation from the frontier wilds. Mr. Buckley is a son of Franklin R. and Helen M. (Turner) Buckley, both of whom were born and reared in the State of New York and both of whom became honored pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, the venerable mother being now a resident of the village of Strawberry Point, where she has maintained her home the greater part of the time since the death of her husband. Franklin R. Buckley established his home in this county in

the year 1854, his purchase of the original homestead place in Lodomillo township having been effected in the preceding year. A man of high character and virile progressiveness, he achieved large and worthy success in his farm operations and at the time of his death, May 10, 1901, he was the owner of more than seven hundred acres of valuable land in Clayton county. He was influential in community affairs, as a leader in popular sentiment and action, and he commanded secure place in the esteem of the people with whom he came in contact in the varied relations of life. His political support was given to the Republican party and he supported the Congregational church, of which his widow has long been a devoted adherent. Of their six children the eldest is Sarah, who is the wife of Jesse F. Taintor, of Ripon, Wisconsin; Parke, of this review, was the next in order of birth and is the only son; Eva is the wife of Byron W. Newberry of Strawberry Point; Jessie is the wife of Miles Alderson, of Stanley, Wisconsin; Mary is the wife of James Alderson, M. D., and they reside in the city of Dubuque; and Helen remains with her widowed mother. After having made good use of the advantages afforded in the excellent public schools of his native county Parke Buckley entered Iowa College, at Grinnell, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1881. He is a farmer and stock-grower. His political proclivities are indicated in his staunch support of the cause of the Republican party and he and his wife are members of the Congregational church at Strawberry Point, which place is their postoffice address. The maiden name of Mr. Buckley's first wife was Nettie Williams, and she is survived by one daughter, Harriet, who is now the wife of Walter Hall, of Leroy, Minnesota. For his second wife Mr. Buckley married Miss Lucina Bixby, and no children have been born of this union.

**Alonzo M. Burlingame** is the junior member of the ambitious and progressive firm of Tayek & Burlingame, which is engaged in the general merchandise business in the village of Froelich, with a well equipped store that gives effective service to the large patronage drawn from the thriving section of the county normally tributary to the village mentioned. He is a member of one of the well-known and highly esteemed families of Clayton county and is one of the loyal young men who has found in his native county ample opportunity for successful achievement. Mr. Burlingame was born at North McGregor, this county, on the 20th of January, 1892, and is a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Kostle) Burlingame, the former of whom was born in the State of Massachusetts, and the latter of whom is a native of Bohemia, she having been a child at the time of her parents' immigration to America. Benjamin Burlingame has been a resident of Clayton county from boyhood and his parents were numbered among the sterling pioneers of this county. He was afforded the advantages of the public schools at McGregor and has been identified with agricultural pursuits during virtually his entire active career. Since 1895 he has owned and resided upon his well improved farm, in Giard township, and he is one of the popular and substantial citizens of that part of the county. He is



a stalwart supporter of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor and his wife is an earnest communicant of the Catholic church. Of their three children the eldest is Edward, who is now a resident of Helena, the capital city of the State of Montana; Marjorie is the wife of Jacob J. Tayek; and the subject of this sketch is the youngest of the number. After duly profiting by the advantages afforded in the district schools of his native township Alonzo M. Burlingame completed a course of high study in the high school at McGregor, besides which he was graduated in the celebrated Rasmussen Business College, in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, as a member of the class of 1911. This last discipline well equipped him for the handling of the practical details pertaining to the business with which he is now identified, as a member of the enterprising mercantile firm of Tayek & Burlingame, in which his coadjutor is his brother-in-law, Jacob J. Tayek, concerning whom individual mention is made on other pages of this work. Mr. Burlingame was married June 27, 1916, to Miss Mattie Fett, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fett, prominent farming people of Watson, Iowa; he is aligned in the ranks of the Democratic party and is a communicant of the Catholic church, in the faith of which he was reared.

**William J. Byrnes** is a popular bachelor, a progressive farmer and a substantial business man of his native county, and he is the owner of the fine old homestead farm on which he was born and reared; the gracious home circle includes also his venerable and revered mother and his sisters, Mary and Eunice. After the death of his honored father Mr. Byrnes assumed the active management of the home place, which comprised two hundred and forty acres, and by his ability and enterprise he has since added to his landed estate until he is now the owner of a finely improved property of five hundred acres, in Sperry and Cox Creek townships. The old homestead is in Sperry township and here he was born on the 20th of February, 1860, a date that indicates conclusively that his parents were numbered among the pioneer settlers of that part of Clayton county. He is a son of James and Margaret (McTaggart) Byrnes, both of whom were born in Ireland—members of fine old families of the fair Emerald Isle. As a young man James Byrnes came to the United States and established his residence in the city of Boston, where he found employment in a rolling mill, he having learned the trade of iron and steel rolling in his youth. About the year 1856 he numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, and here he achieved large and worthy success in connection with the basic industry of agriculture. He continued his residence on the old homestead until his death, which occurred July 20, 1896, and he was a man whose sterling character and worthy achievement gained and retained to him the confidence and good will of his fellow men. His political support was given to the Democratic party and he was an earnest communicant of the Catholic church, as are also his widow and their children. Of the children the eldest is Sarah, who is the wife of Daniel Thyne, of Doon, Lyon county; Mary remains with the family that now

occupies a modern home in Strawberry Point; John passed to the life eternal on the 13th of January, 1895; the subject of this sketch was the next in order of birth; Eunice is a member of the old home circle; Catherine is the wife of Timothy C. Glennon, of Strawberry Point; and James died in the year 1880. William J. Byrnes is indebted to the schools of his native county for the early educational discipline of which he made good use, and he gained in his boyhood and youth the fullest meed of experience in connection with the work of the farm, of which he assumed the management after the death of his father, as previously stated in this context. In addition to his successful operations as an extensive agriculturist and stock-grower he now conducts a substantial and prosperous business as a buyer and shipper of live stock with Strawberry Point as his business headquarters. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he has served as trustee of his native township. He is an active communicant of the Catholic church and is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodman of America.

**Arthur Jones Carpenter**, cashier of the First National Bank of Elkader, Iowa, is a native of the Hawkeye state, having been born in Buchanan county, June 16, 1871, and is the son of L. D. and Mary (Andrews) Carpenter, the former a native of Trenton Falls, New York, and the latter of Boston, Massachusetts. They moved to Iowa where his father was an inventor and builder of tread-power mills, in Arlington, Iowa. He died February 19, 1887, but the mother still survives, and is a resident of Fayette, Iowa. To their marriage four children were born, the first two of whom were twins: Charles R., cashier of the Fayette State Bank, and Carrie, who is the wife of A. E. Whitney also of Fayette; Arthur was the third child; and David died in childhood. Arthur Carpenter received his higher education in the University of Fayette, where he spent three years in pursuit of his studies. On leaving college, he learned the moulders' trade, abandoning that work at the end of one year, to take up the profession of school teaching. After one winter in the school room, he filled positions in the Arlington and Fayette Banks for two years, but in 1893 resigned to go to Elkader as bookkeeper in the newspaper offices of the Register and Argus. At the close of a year's study in stenography, he returned to Elkader, Iowa, where he entered the law offices of R. E. and V. T. Price and James E. Corlett. Having proven abilities of a high order in the various vocations, he was elected cashier of the National Bank of Elkader, in 1898, the duties of which position of trust he is still discharging with such efficiency and integrity that he has been chosen chairman of the Northeastern Bankers' Association—Group No. 4. He is an earnest and energetic political worker in the Republican party, having served as chairman of the Central Republican Committee, and now acting as its treasurer. He has also filled minor county offices, and in his life of varied and engrossing interests has found time to give consideration to the educational affairs of his community, serving as school treasurer for many years. In Masonic circles he is a prominent figure, being a member and one time master of

the Blue Lodge, and a member of the Scottish Rite, and in religion he is a member of the Congregational church. April 25, 1901, he was married to Alice Paterson, of whom he was bereft by death, June 9, 1903, being left with one child, a daughter, Gladys, born October 1, 1902. He was married a second time, October 19, 1905, to Alice Howard, and three daughters have been born to them: Ruth H., who has attained the age of seven years; Gertrude, four years of age; and Loraine, two years old.

**George Cassutt**, a well-known citizen and successful business man residing in the city of Elkader, became a resident of Clayton county when he was a boy of nine years and through his own well directed endeavors he has proved himself one of the world's productive workers and has gained worthy independence and prosperity, together with secure place in the confidence and esteem of the people of the county that has represented his home for more than half a century. Mr. Cassutt takes justifiable pride in reverting to the fine little republic of Switzerland as the place of his nativity, and there his birth occurred on the 8th of February, 1851. He is a son of John and Margaret Cassutt, who immigrated to America and established their home in Clayton county, Iowa, in 1860, the subject of this review having thus gained his rudimentary education in his native land and having been a lad of nine years at the time when the family home was established in Clayton county, where he continued to attend school when opportunity afforded. His father engaged in farming in Boardman township and continued as one of the substantial and honored citizens of that township until his death, which occurred February 27, 1877, his devoted wife having passed to the life eternal on the 24th of August, 1874. Of their children two died in infancy, prior to the family immigration to the United States; George, of this review, was the third child; Christina is deceased; Mary Ann is a resident of Elkader, Iowa; Joseph is a prosperous farmer in Boardman township; and Mary and her husband maintain their home in the city of San Bernardino, California. George Cassutt assisted his father in the work of the home farm and in 1870, as a youth of about twenty years, he formed a partnership with two other men and engaged in the operation of a threshing outfit. He possesses marked natural talent as a mechanic and found both satisfaction and profit in his association with the operation of the threshing machine, besides which he purchased a second-hand outfit of blacksmith tools and accessories and established on the home farm a blacksmith shop, in which he found much requisition for his work after the close of the threshing season. Later he became sole proprietor of the threshing outfit and business, by buying the interest of his partners. He successfully operated the outfit until 1878, when the machine was destroyed by fire, but within the same year he put his mechanical skill to good use by building a new threshing machine, in which he utilized all the available parts saved from the old machine and purchased such new parts as were demanded to place the machine in good working order. After operating the outfit two seasons he sold the same and also severed his association with direct farm enterprise. Remov-



ing to Elkader, the county seat, he here rented a vacant blacksmith shop and operated the same about eighteen months, giving special attention to the repairing of farm machinery and implements. Impaired health compelled him to retire from this field of enterprise, and, to recuperate his powers, he passed a few months in the state of California. In the spring of 1883 Mr. Cassutt purchased a well-drilling outfit, besides which he acquired also a good farm of one hundred and forty acres, in Boardman township, his brother Joseph being given the active supervision and control of the farm, on which they both maintained their home. Mr. Cassutt proved very successful in his business of constructing drilled wells, and in 1886 he purchased a new and improved drilling outfit, to the operation of which he still continues to give his attention, his services having been given in the construction of wells throughout a wide area of country in this part of the state and a prosperous business having been developed also by him in the selling and installing of wind mills. He still owns the well improved farm and in 1887 he purchased his present attractive home at Elkader. He is a Democrat in his political allegiance and has served as a member of the city council of Elkader. Mr. Cassutt is known as a loyal and public-spirited citizen and he still permits his name to be enrolled on the list of eligible bachelors in Clayton county.

**Ole Christianson** is a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county, which has been his home since he was a child of two years, and he is a scion of that fine Scandinavian stock that has proved such a splendid force in connection with the civic and material development and progress of the great north-western section of our national domain. Mr. Christianson has been one of the successful agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county, but is now living virtually retired in a pleasant home in the village of Gunder, his postoffice address being the neighboring village of Postville, Allamakee county. Mr. Christianson was born in Norway, on the 4th of February, 1855, and was but two years old at the time when his parents immigrated to America and established their home in Clayton county. He is a son of Christian and Betsey (Olson) Christianson, both of whom passed the remainder of their lives in this county, where the father developed a good farm and became a prosperous and honored citizen, both he and his wife having been zealous communicants of the Lutheran church. Of their seven children, five survive. To the public schools of Clayton county Ole Christianson is indebted for his early educational advantages and after leaving the parental home he was employed at farm work in this county for several years. He then purchased a farm and to the active management of the same he continued to give his attention until his retirement from the labors that had so long engrossed his time and attention. He still owns the property, which he rents to a desirable tenant. Mr. Christianson is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. In November, 1893, Mr. Christianson married Miss Christina Nelson, who was born in Norway and who was a young woman when

she came with her parents to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Christianson have no children.

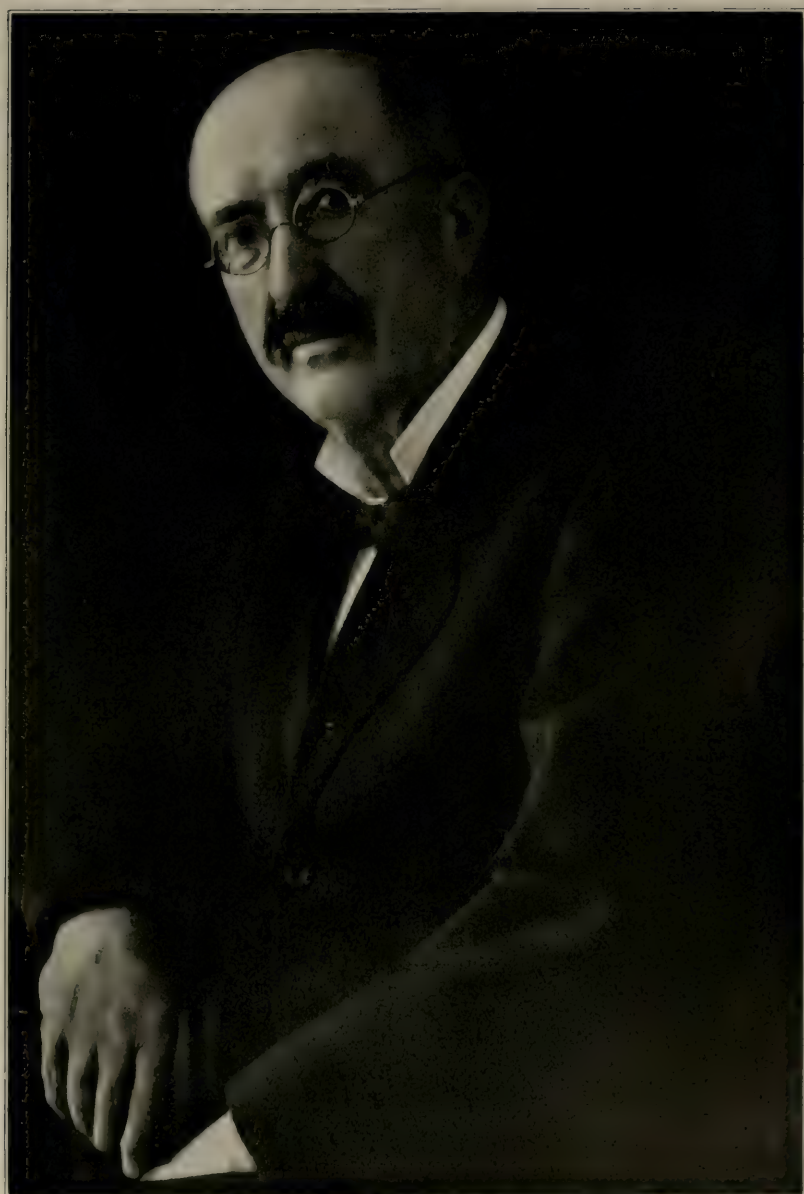
**Julius Christoleit** has effectively demonstrated his energy and ambitious purpose during the period of his residence in Clayton county, for he came here about twenty years ago and set himself vigorously to the winning of independence and prosperity through his own endeavors. That he is successful needs no further voucher than the statement that he is now the owner of one of the well improved and valuable farms of this county and that he stands exponent of civic and industrial loyalty and progressiveness, with deep and abiding appreciation of the opportunities that have been afforded to him in the land of his adoption. Mr. Christoleit was born in Germany, on the 8th of May, 1866, and is a son of Charles and Rosa Christoleit, who passed their entire lives in their Fatherland, and of whose nine children only three are now living. Julius Christoleit was reared and educated in his native land, and there was solemnized his marriage to Miss Amelia Suttkous, who, with their two children, accompanied him on his immigration to the United States, in 1895. Soon after his arrival in America Mr. Christoleit came with his family to Clayton county, where he found employment by the month as a farm hand until he purchased his present well improved farm, which is situated in section 2, Sperry township and which comprises three hundred and twelve acres. He has erected a modern house and other buildings on the place and is known as one of the substantial and enterprising agriculturists and stock-raisers of the county, in which he arrived with a cash capital of only twenty dollars and in which he has won advancement to his present secure position of independence and generous prosperity. He and his wife became the parents of eight children, of whom six were born after the removal to America. Charles is deceased; Frederick C. and William H. assist in the work and management of the home farm; Pauline is now in the State of Wisconsin; Anna and Gustave remain at the parental home; Emma is deceased; and Julius, Jr., is the youngest member of the home circle.

**Ethan S. Clark** is the owner of one of the excellent farms of Highland township and in his native county has won for himself a secure position of success and prosperity through his own well ordered efforts and progressive policies. Mr. Clark was born at National, this county, on the 9th of September, 1880, and is a son of James P. and Mary (Thompson) Clark, both of whom were born in the state of New York. James P. Clark came to Clayton county when he was a young man and here he was actively identified with agricultural industry until the time of his death. His marriage was solemnized in this county and his widow now resides in the home of their son Ethan S., of this review, who was the sixth in order of birth in a family of seven children. Annie, the eldest of the children, is the wife of George Swift, of Washington; Myrtle is the wife of William Hawley, of Charles City, Iowa; Frank is now a resident of Santa Ana, California; Gaylord and Victor are deceased; Ethan S. was the next child; and the youngest is

Earl, who is now a resident of Gillespie, Illinois. Ethan S. Clark gained his early education in the schools of his native county and of Drake University at Des Moines, of which he is an alumnus of the Commercial Department, and also of Fayette University, Illinois. He began to depend largely upon his own resources when he was a lad of twelve years. He found employment at farm work for a term of years, and in the meantime he developed exceptional ability as a ball-player, with the result that he was drawn into the national game in a professional way. In 1901-2 he was a successful player in the Kentucky and Illinois Baseball League, and after his retirement from this line of activity he resumed his association with agricultural pursuits. He continued to work on the farms of other agriculturists until 1912, when he purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres, in section 35, Highland township, where he has since continued with marked vigor and progressiveness his operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower, his home receiving service on one of the rural mail routes from the village of Volga. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and he is now serving effectively in the office of township trustee, his incumbency of which fully attests his popularity in the community. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his wife holds membership in the Order of the Eastern Star and the Royal Neighbors. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church. On the 7th of October, 1903, Mr. Clark wedded Miss Edith Susie, who was born and reared in Clayton county and who was a successful and popular teacher in the public schools during a period of five years prior to her marriage. She is a daughter of William and Margaret (Scrauder) Susie, who were born in Germany, and her mother is an honored pioneer citizen residing at Volga, this county, her father dying April 19, 1916. William J., their eldest son, resides at Volga; Mrs. Clark was the next in order of birth; Jennie is a teacher in the village schools at Volga; Frederick is engaged in the poultry and grain business at Volga; and Marian is the wife of Clarence Voshell, of that village. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have but one child, Frederick Carroll, who was born July 16, 1904, who is now attending the public school at Volga.

**Henry H. Clark, M. D.**—A man of the character and ability of Dr. Clark was not made for obscurity and the circumstances of time and place have not been the makers but the instruments of his stewardship in the profession that he has signally honored and dignified by his long and effective services. He has the distinction of being the veritable dean of his profession in the State of Iowa at the time this publication is issued, and has maintained his home at McGregor, Clayton county, for nearly half a century—years marked by large and worthy achievement as a man of affairs and as one of the most able and influential physicians and surgeons of this favored section of the Hawkeye state. The doctor is one of the favored mortals whom nature launches into the world with the heritage of a sturdy ancestry, splendid physical powers, an alert and receptive mind, and energy enough for many men. Added to





HENRY H. CLARK, M.D.



these attributes are exceptional intellectual attainments and the valued lessons of a wide and varied experience. Planted in a metropolis, such a man would have used his talents in competing with and uplifting his fellow men. Planted in a pioneer community he used them in developing the things the environment needed and has marked the course of his life by earnest and self-abnegating service in the alleviation of human suffering and distress. In his profession, to the exacting demands of which he has subordinated all else, he has manifested that true human sympathy which transcends mere emotion or sentiment to become an actuating motive for helpfulness. It is needless to say that he is honored and revered in the county in which he has accorded his unselfish and efficient professional ministrations for many years, and his benignant influence in community affairs in general has given him precedence as one of the essentially representative citizens of Clayton county, so that there is all of consistency in according to him special recognition in this history of the county. Dr. Clark was born in Centre county, Pennsylvania, on the 12th of October, 1842, and is a scion of sterling families that were early founded in the old Keystone state. He is a son of John and Helen (Wolf) Clark, who were born and reared in Pennsylvania and whose marriage was there solemnized in the year 1839. Both were natives of Union county, that state, and representatives of old and influential families of that section of the Keystone commonwealth. John Clark owned and operated a farm in his native state until about the year 1852, when he removed with his family to Illinois and became one of the early settlers of Stephenson county, where he purchased a tract of three hundred and twenty acres of land and developed one of the fine farms of that section of the state. To the management of his extensive landed estate he continued to give his active supervision until 1870, after which he lived virtually retired until his death, which occurred in 1888, when he was about 75 years of age, the old homestead farm being placed in charge of his son James after he himself retired from the labors and responsibilities that had long engrossed his attention. His devoted and cherished wife passed to the life eternal at the age of 75 years, and concerning their children brief record may consistently be entered at this juncture: William went forth as a loyal and valiant soldier of the Union and when the Civil War was precipitated on the nation, and he sacrificed his life in the cause, as he was killed while participating in the historic siege of Vicksburg. He was a member of Battery L, Second Illinois Artillery, and his command was commonly known as Bolton's Battery. Dr. Henry H., the immediate subject of this review, was the next in order of birth. John S. is engaged in the real-estate business at Belvidere, Illinois, and is a prominent and influential figure in the affairs of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Illinois, in which the year 1916 finds him serving as chief examiner for the state organization. James B. is a prosperous retired farmer and maintains his home at Hampton, the judicial center of Franklin county, Iowa. Mary J., twin sister of James B., is the wife of Theron E. Heary, and they reside in the city of



Dwight, Illinois. Dr. Henry H. Clark acquired his preliminary educational discipline in the common schools of his native state and was a youth of 12 years at the time of the family removal from Pennsylvania to Illinois, where he continued his studies in the schools of Stephenson county and later pursued high academic studies in Rock River Seminary, at Mount Morris, that state. With high ideals and ambitious purpose, he early formulated plans for his future career and determined to prepare himself for the medical profession. He finally entered the Chicago Medical College, in which he completed, with characteristic zeal and fidelity, the prescribed curriculum and in which he was graduated in the spring of 1870, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. It was thus given him to have left Chicago in the year prior to that which brought devastation to the city through the historic fire that swept the present great metropolis in 1871. After his graduation the doctor served the customary period as an interne in Mercy Hospital, still one of the leading hospitals of Chicago, and in this connection he gained most valuable clinical experience, besides receiving from the hospital a diploma which he prizes more than any other honor that has been bestowed upon him during the later years of a signally active and useful career. On the 10th of October, 1870, two days prior to his twenty-eighth birthday anniversary, Dr. Clark, an ambitious and well fortified young physician, established his residence in the village of McGregor, Clayton county, Iowa, and here entered upon a professional novitiate that proved of short duration, for his ability and gracious personality soon gave him precedence as one of the successful and influential members of his profession in the county, where he has controlled during the long intervening years a specially extensive practice. In the early days he faithfully and unselfishly faced many hardships and arduous labors in pursuing his humane mission, for he traversed long distances in winter's cold and summer's heat, over roads that were scarcely worthy of the name, and with ready response to the call of duty, no matter how dark or stormy the night or how slight the probability of his receiving due financial compensation for his services. It need scarcely be said that in the highest and best sense Dr. Clark has proved himself humanity's friend—and greater tribute than this can be given to no man. He has wielded large influence in community affairs and has been a leader in the furtherance to these things that make for civic and material prosperity and progress. Typical of his broad sympathy and public spirit was his action when, in 1902, he erected and equipped his modern hospital at McGregor, the same bearing his name and being recognized as having the best appointments and facilities of all similar institutions in Clayton county. The hospital makes the best of provisions for the treatment of disease and for the handling of surgical cases according to the most approved methods of the twentieth century. The institution draws an appreciable support from far outside the limits of Clayton county and is a noble monument to the liberality and professional zeal and loyalty of the founder and owner. Dr. Clark has served consecutively since 1903 as a member of the Iowa state board of health, and he became

a member of the state board of medical examiners at the time of its organization, his service in this connection having continued until the expiration of his term and having covered a period of about thirteen years. He is actively identified with the American Medical Association, the American Association of Railway Surgeons, and the Surgeons' Association of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. He has long been an honored and influential member of the Iowa State Medical Society, and before this representative body he delivered in 1916 a specially interesting and technically valuable address upon the subject of surgery. The doctor holds membership also in the Cedar Valley Medical Society, and has for many years been a leader in the councils and activities of the Clayton County Medical Society, of which he was one of the organizers and of which he is serving as president in 1916. For a period of about thirty years Dr. Clark has had the distinction of serving as president of the United States board of pension examining surgeons for Clayton county, and he gave fifteen years of effective service as a member of the board of education of McGregor, of which he was president several terms. His political allegiance, fortified by well taken opinions concerning economic and governmental policies, is given to the Republican party. Until this point in the narrative has been left the making of reference to a specially notable and distinguished phase in the career of Dr. Clark. He was about nineteen years of age at the inception of the Civil War, and in 1862, in response to the call for volunteers, he enlisted as a private in Company G, Ninety-second Illinois Mounted Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland and which was a part of Wilder's famous Mounted Brigade with which he continued in active service from August, 1862, until final victory had crowned the Union arms and the war reached its close. He lived up to the full tension of the great conflict between the North and the South and with his regiment participated in fifty-two engagements, including a number of important battles. He was always to be found at the post of duty, a loyal and valiant soldier, and though he was often in the thick of the fray and assigned to hazardous duty, it was his good fortune to escape wounds and capture. In the later years he has vitalized the more gracious memories and associations of his military career by maintaining affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. In the year 1872 was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Clark to Miss Judith Baugh, daughter of Judge Downing Baugh, who was one of the honored and influential pioneers of Clayton county, where he established his residence in the earlier '50s, upon coming with his family from Mount Vernon, Illinois. Both he and his wife continued their residence at McGregor until their death and their names merit high place on the roll of the honored pioneers of the county. In conclusion is entered brief record concerning the children of Dr. and Mrs. Clark: Alice May, who is her father's efficient and valued coadjutor in the work and management of the Clark Hospital at McGregor, was graduated in the medical department of the University of Iowa as a member of the class of 1902, and she not only has a large and



representative private praetice, but also has the unique distinction of being the only woman physician in the United States to hold regular appointment as a railway surgeon. Florence L. is a young woman of fine intellectual and literary talent and articles from her pen have appeared in leading newspapers and magazines of the United States. Harry H. is a special agent of the Department of Agriculture, with headquarters at the national capital, and to him has been assigned the conducting of technical agricultural investigation in every state of the Union. Maude G. is the wife of Judd J. Dunaway and they maintain their home at Miami, Arizona. William Clarence passed to eternal rest in 1906, at the age of 21 years. Ethel B. is the wife of Carl Bickel, of McGregor, and they have a winsome little daughter, Barbara.

**R. R. Clark** merits recognition in this publication by reason of his status as a loyal and progressive citizen of Clayton county and as an effective and popular representative of the newspaper fraternity and business in this section of the state that has been his home since the time when he arrived on the stage of life and with the imperturbability of infancy blandly faced a frowning world—and that with no semblance of appreciation of the fact that destiny was eventually to throw him into the weird vortex of practical journalism. Mr. Clark is editor and publisher of the well-ordered weekly paper entitled the Strawberry Point Press, at Strawberry Point, and is making the same an effective vehicle for the exploiting and furthering of community interests and also for the advancing of the cause of the Republican party, of which he is a stalwart supporter. Mr. Clark was born at Pomeroy, Calhoun county, Iowa, on the 26th of August, 1881, and is a son of George E. and Mary (DeMoss) Clark, the former of whom was born at Haverhill, Massachusetts, on the 4th of August, 1858, and the latter of whom is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Oregon, her birth having occurred at The Dalles, that state, on the 1st of January, 1862. The parents of the subject of this review now maintain their home at Garwin, Iowa, and the father has given the greater part of his active career to hardware and harness business. In the public schools of his native county R. R. Clark continued his studies until he had completed the curriculum of the high school at Jolley, and thereafter he was for one and a half years a student in Tobin College, in the city of Fort Dodge. As a youth he gained his novitiate in the "art preservative of all arts," and he has been an alert, vigorous and popular exponent of the newspaper business in Clayton county since he assumed his present association at Strawberry Point, where he has been editor and publisher of the Strawberry Point Press since 1911. On the 15th of June, 1907, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Clark to Miss Ruth Glass, daughter of William and Soloam (Robb) Glass, of Strawberry Point, and the one child of this union is a somewhat autocratic little son, Jack G.

**Seth Clark**—That the opulent natural resources of Clayton county have not lacked appreciation on the part of the native sons of the county is clearly demonstrated by their continued association with the county and its varied interests, and it is specially



pleasing to find such a large and vigorous percentage of such citizens who are here effectively aiding in maintaining the county's prestige as a center of agricultural industry. Such a substantial and honored citizen is Mr. Clark, who owns and operates the fine old homestead farm on which he was born and reared and which is one of the well improved and valuable landed estates of Wagner township. Here he has resided from the time of his birth and in progressiveness, civic loyalty and worthy achievement he has signally honored the name which he bears and which has been indissolubly linked with the history of Clayton county since the early pioneer days, in fact, for more than fifty years. Such are the sterling citizens who specially merit recognition in this publication. On this present farm, in section 31, Wagner township, Seth Clark was born on the 17th of August, 1860, and he is a son of Milo P. and Mary (Lundbeck) Clark, the former of whom was born in the State of New York and the latter in Ohio, their marriage having been solemnized in the latter state, on the 20th of May, 1849. Upon coming to Clayton county, about the year 1852, Milo P. Clark obtained one hundred and seventy-six acres of government land, in what is now Wagner township, where, with characteristic vigor and progressiveness, he set himself to the task of reclaiming a farm from the virgin wilds. The measure of his success was large in the passing years, and he eventually became the owner of a valuable domain of four hundred acres, all but twenty-five acres of which is now owned by his son Seth, of this sketch, who was the third in order of birth in the family of five children, of whom the first, Amy E., died in childhood; Jacob is now a substantial citizen of Hancock county, this state, his home being in the thriving little city of Britt; Mary is the wife of Jacob Gehring, of Marion township, Clayton county; and James E. died in infancy. Milo P. Clark was one of the influential and honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of his death, which occurred March 27, 1901, and his devoted wife soon followed him to the life eternal, so that in death they were not long divided, Mrs. Clark having passed away on the 23d of September of the same year. Seth Clark was reared to manhood on the fine old homestead of which he is now the owner and is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early educational discipline. He gained an enduring appreciation of the value of honest toil and endeavor and his long and intimate experience has made him a most practical and scientific agriculturalist and stockgrower, for he has from his youth been closely associated with the work and management of the home farm, of all of which—three hundred and seventy-five acres—he has been the proprietor since he was forty-one years of age, the property having come into his possession through direct bequest on the part of his honored parents, the memories of both of whom are held in enduring veneration in the county that represented their home and stage of effective activity for many years. Politically, the father was a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party. He whose name initiates this article is likewise unfaltering in allegiance to the Republican party, and he has been loyal and progressive in

the supporting of measures and enterprises that have contributed to the social and material welfare of his home community and native county; the while he has maintained the fullest measure of popular confidence and esteem. He has served six years as trustee of Wagner township, besides having held minor offices of local trust. On the 2d of January, 1887, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Annie Embretson, who was born and reared in this county, where her parents settled in the pioneer days, both having been born in Norway. She is a daughter of Lars and Jane (Nelson) Embretson, representative of that fine Scandinavian element of citizenship that has contributed much to the development and up-building of Clayton county. Her father became one of the pioneer farmers of Wagner township, where he continued to reside until his death and where his widow still maintains her home. Of their children the first-born was Embret, who is deceased; Mrs. Clark was the second in order of birth; Nels operates the old homestead farm in Wagner township; Lena is the wife of Martin Severson, of North Dakota; Knute is associated with his brother in the control of the fine farm developed by their father, as is also Ole, and the widowed mother likewise remains on this place, which is endeared to her by the hallowed memories and associations of the past. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have two children—Alvin and Joel. Alvin is associated in the work and management of the home farm, and on the 18th of April, 1914, he wedded Miss Helen Landsgard, who likewise was born and reared in this county. Joel is successfully associated with agricultural pursuits in Boardman township. The attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. Clark is one of the fine rural residences of Clayton county, is known for its generous and unostentatious hospitality, and receives mail service on rural route No. 3 from Elkader, the county seat.

Mrs. Minnie Clough has been a resident of Clayton county since her childhood and here she has shown splendid energy and resourcefulness as a business woman, her success having been the result of her well-ordered efforts and personal popularity and having given her a place of prominence and influence in business circles in this county. She owns and conducts at Strawberry Point the well-equipped general merchandise store known as the Bee Hive, and the same has the best of facilities for meeting the demands placed upon it by a large and appreciative patronage. Mrs. Clough owns not only the modern brick building in which her store is located but also a well-improved farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Cass township. She is essentially one of the representative business women of Clayton county and her gracious personality has gained to her a circle of friends whose number is virtually equal to that of her acquaintances. She was born in Dubuque county, Iowa, and is a daughter of Gottlieb and Minnie (Heisler) Steinhulber. Her parents were born in Germany and were children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to America, where they were reared and educated and where their marriage was solemnized in Iowa. In the pioneer days Mr. Steinhulber was engaged in the mercantile business in Dubuque for a

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D. J. CRAIN AND WIFE  
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number of years, and in 1860 he came with his family to Clayton county and purchased a farm in Sperry township. He became one of the prosperous agriculturalists and highly esteemed citizens of this county and here continued to maintain his residence on his old homestead until his death, though he was visiting his sister in the city of New York at the time of his demise, which occurred in 1906. His cherished and devoted wife did not long survive him, as she was summoned to the life eternal in 1908. They became the parents of six children, all of whom are living, and all were carefully reared in the faith of the Lutheran church, of which her parents were lifelong and devout communicants. Mrs. Clough continued her studies in the public schools of Clayton county until she had completed an effective course in the high school at Elkader. In 1885 she engaged in the mercantile business at Strawberry Point, and here her Bee Hive Store is now one of the principal mercantile establishments of the progressive village, with a substantial trade that has been developed through effective service and fair and honorable dealings. Mrs. Clough is an earnest communicant of the Lutheran church and is liberal in the support of the various departments of its work. She has a pleasant home in which she finds pleasure in extending cordial hospitality to her many friends, and in which she is lovingly rearing two little girls whom she has taken under her benignant care and one of whom is the daughter of one of her kinsfolk.

**Delos J. Crain** is one of the most progressive farmers of the younger generation in his native township and is a popular factor in community affairs, influential in connection with public interests and loyal in his support of those things that tend to advance the general welfare. He is the owner of one of the fine landed estates of Sperry township and it is specially interesting to record that on this homestead he has lived from the time of his birth, which here occurred on the 31st of July, 1879. He is a son of James and Jane (Broker) Crain, both of whom passed the closing years of their lives in Volga. James Crain was born in England, where he was reared to 15 years of age, and he came to the United States in the year 1852. He first located at Lockport, New York, and in 1854 he came to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county. He settled on a tract of wild land now included in the well improved farm of the subject of this sketch, and his ability and well ordered enterprise as a farmer enabled him to accumulate a large landed property and to gain substantial success as an exponent of farm industry. He was thrice married, and the two daughters of his first marriage are now married and reside in the village of Volga, this county. Of the two children of the second marriage the elder was William, who died when seven months of age; and the younger is Delos J., to whom this sketch is dedicated. The mother of Delos J. Crain was born February 14, 1853, and reared in the State of New York and came to Clayton county in her youth, her marriage to James Crain having here been solemnized and she having been 52 years old at the time of her death, August 25, 1905. Both she and her husband were earnest members of the Methodist

Episcopal church and they so lived as to merit and receive the high regard of those with whom they came in contact in the various relations of life. Delos J. Crain continued his studies in the public schools until he had attended the high school at Volga for one year, and thereafter he was a student during one term in the business college at Fayette, this state. He assisted his father in the affairs and work of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, and he then rented the old homestead, on which he continued his farming operations under these conditions for a period of five years. He then became the owner of the valuable property which comprises two hundred and ten acres of as fine land as is to be found in Clayton county, the farm being situated in sections 1 and 11, Sperry township, and which was part of his father's estate. Here he carries on general farming, and also gives considerable attention to the breeding and raising of Shetland ponies, and the modern house that Mr. Crain has erected on the place being looked upon as one of the finest rural domiciles in this township, even as its hospitality has caused it to become a center of much of the representative social life of the community. Mr. Crain is aligned as a stalwart supporter of the cause of the Republican party, and the year 1916 finds him serving with characteristic loyalty and efficiency as township trustee and as president of the school board of his district. He is affiliated with lodge No. 72, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in Elkader, and there he and his wife are zealous and valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church, he being a member of its board of trustees. On the 25th of September, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Crain to Miss Ethel Smith, who was born in Delaware county, this state, and who is a daughter of William B. and Orril (Cowles) Smith, the former a native of Ontario, Canada, and the latter of the State of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were pioneer settlers of Iowa and continued to reside in this state until their death, all save one of their seven children still surviving them. Mr. and Mrs. Crain have four children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here noted: Cecil Orril, July 23, 1902; Erma E., April 24, 1904; Mildred Ruth, August 8, 1906; and William B. Smith Crain, May 25, 1908.

**Albert N. Crawford**, who owns and conducts a well-equipped harness and saddlery establishment in the village of Garnavillo, has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth and has won for himself distinct success and prestige as one of the progressive and representative business men of the county. In addition to the modern two-story brick building in which his business is conducted, he owns also a frame business building in the village and the attractive residence in which he and his wife maintain their home and delight to extend hospitable welcome to their many friends. Mr. Crawford was born in Clayton township, this county, on the 24th of May, 1872, and is a son of James and Elizabeth (Gregory) Crawford, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter at Racine, Wisconsin. The parents of Mr. Crawford settled in Clayton county in the early period of its history and here they passed the remainder of their lives, secure in



the high regard of all who knew them, the father having given the greater part of his active life to agricultural pursuits. Of the three children the eldest is Edgar, who now resides in the city of Dubuque; Albert N., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Agnes is the wife of Melvin Ringle, of Rock Island, Illinois. Reared to maturity in Clayton county, Albert N. Crawford did not fail to profit duly by the advantages afforded in the public schools, and when 18 years of age he entered upon a practical apprenticeship to the trade of harnessmaker. After he had proved himself a skilled artisan at his trade he began to consult ways and means for establishing himself in independent business, and in 1902 he realized his ambition by opening a harness store at Garnavillo, where he has built up a substantial and prosperous business and has a store that is well equipped with all kinds of harness and saddlery goods demanded by the local trade and where is maintained an excellent manufacturing and repair department also. Mr. Crawford is one of the enterprising business men and public-spirited citizens of his native county and though he has had no desire for public office of any kind he is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. Both he and his wife are active members of the Lutheran church at Garnavillo and both have in their native county a circle of friends that is limited only by that of their acquaintances. In the year 1905 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Crawford to Miss Lena Ihde, who, as already intimated, was born and reared in Clayton county. They have no children. Mrs. Crawford is a daughter of Frederick and Sophia Ihde, who were born in Germany and who established their home in Clayton county about half a century ago, here to remain as highly respected citizens until the time of their death. The career of Mr. Crawford has been marked by earnest industry and careful and honorable business policies, so that he well merits the success he has achieved.

**George H. Cunningham** is numbered among the representative merchants and honored and influential citizens of the vigorous little village of Monona, where he is engaged in the hardware and implement business, with a large and well-equipped establishment that is at all times prepared to meet the demands of an extended and representative patronage. Mr. Cunningham is one of the well-poised and substantial business men of the younger generation in his native county and consistently finds individual recognition in this publication. He was born in Giard township, this county, on the 8th of September, 1888, and is a son of Isaac and Frances (Collier) Cunningham, both of whom were born in Holland. Isaac Cunningham came to the United States about the year 1866, and established his residence in the State of New York. About a decade later he came to Iowa and established his home in Clayton county, where he purchased a farm, in Giard township. There he continued his successful activities as an agriculturist for many years, and he and his wife now reside in the village of Monona, where he is living virtually retired and in the enjoyment of the goodly rewards of former years of earnest endeavor. He is a Republican

in politics and continues to take a lively and discriminating interest in the issues and questions of the hour, with well fortified views concerning governmental and economic policies. He is a trustee of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and both he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They are numbered among the honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county and in the gracious environment of an attractive home and surrounded by a host of loyal friends, they may well feel that their lines are cast in pleasant places. Daniel H. the eldest of their children, is a prosperous farmer in Monona township; Mae F. is the wife of George Hazlett, of Giard township; William died at the age of 31; Carrie P. is the wife of James Campbell, of Colton, South Dakota; James is a resident of Monona; George H., the immediate subject of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Hazel remains at the parental home. After completing the curriculum of the public schools of Monona, George H. Cunningham further fortified himself by an effective course in the Toland Business College, in the city of La Crosse, Wisconsin. He passed the ensuing four years as a bookkeeper in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, and then became a traveling commercial salesman for the Huber & Furman Drug mills, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, with which concern he continued his successful work for four years. In July, 1915, Mr. Cunningham returned to his native county and established his residence in Monona, where he purchased the hardware stock and business of the firm of Furguson & Licht. With marked circumspection and progressiveness he has since carried forward this enterprise, and his establishment is well stocked with heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, ranges, etc., with a well equipped department devoted to plumbing and heating appliances, for the installment of which he has the best of facilities, besides which there is special attention given to the sale of gas engines, windmills, and farm implements. Mr. Cunningham is primarily a business man and though he is emphatically progressive and loyal in his civic attitude and a staunch advocate of the policies and principles of the Republican party, he has manifested no ambition for public office of any kind. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Monona and are popular factors in the representative social activities of the community. On the 23d of August, 1910, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Cunningham to Miss Jessie E. Foster, daughter of Bartley and Eva (Wheat) Foster, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and they have two children—Eva Francis, who was born August 10, 1911, and Daphne Lorayne, who was born April 4, 1915.

**Albert L. Currie, D. D. S.,** is an able and representative exponent of the profession that involves both a science and a mechanic art and is known as one of the successful practitioners of dentistry in Clayton county, his place of residence being in the attractive and thriving village of Monona, where he has well appointed offices with the best of modern facilities in both the operative and laboratory departments. As a skilled workman of punctilious loyalty to his profession and the requirements of all patrons, he has built

up a substantial and representative practice and is one of the popular and progressive citizens who consistently find recognition in this history of Clayton county. Dr. Currie was born in the city of La Salle, Illinois, on the 28th of August, 1869, and is a son of James and Louise (Fairbanks) Currie, both natives of the State of Ohio. The parents of the doctor removed to Delaware county, Iowa, when he was about 3 years of age. His father is now living retired from active business with his son, after having been twenty-three years in the service of the Illinois Central R. R. as foreman carpenter of the Iowa division. He is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party and is a member of the Congregational church, as was also his wife, whose death occurred several years since. Of their children the first two, Addie Louise and George, are deceased; Charles is engaged in the practice of medicine in the city of Des Moines; Frank L. and Acacia are deceased, and Dr. Albert L., of this review, is the youngest of the number. Dr. Currie continued his studies in the public schools until he had completed the curriculum of the high school, and in consonance with his ambitious plans he entered the department of dentistry of the University of Iowa, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1891 and from which he received his well-earned degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. For the ensuing four years he was established in practice at Earlville, Iowa, Delaware county, and he then, in 1895, came to Clayton county and opened an office at Monona, where he has since continued in successful practice and where he controls a large and important professional business which is based alike on his recognized technical ability and his unequivocal personal popularity. The doctor pays unswerving allegiance to the Republican party, though manifesting no ambition for public office of any kind, and he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, including the adjunct organization, the Order of the Eastern Star. On the 26th of October, 1894, Dr. Currie wedded Miss Martha Thomas, daughter of David and Sophia Thomas, of Greeley, this State, and she is the popular chatelaine of their present home, which is known for its generous hospitality. Dr. and Mrs. Currie have no children.

**Darrow, George H.**, telegrapher and station agent of Farmersburg, Iowa, was born in Joplin, Missouri, January 29, 1870, and is the son of Allison C. and Elvira (Woodin) Darrow, the former a native of New York, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. Darrow, senior, lives in Kansas, where he is engaged in farming, but his wife died November 15, 1896. They had two children: a son George, a sketch of whose life will follow; and a daughter, Lucinda V., who is the wife of Clarence L. Adams of Cherrydale, Kansas. George Darrow left home at the age of twenty years, going to a school of telegraphy in Janesville, Wisconsin, for seven months, then to Campbell, Minnesota, for another period of study for about the same length of time. After completing his work as a student, he took up the profession of telegraphy, filling positions as operator in Green Valley and Kerkhoven, Minnesota, for about one year, when he was made station agent at Kandiyohi, in the same State.



After five years he went to the Pacific Coast, remaining one year, then returned east, locating successfully in Chicago, Ruthven, Iowa, and various other towns, as telegraph operator. After spending about six months each in these places, he went to Whittemore, Iowa, for three years, and to Emmettsburg in the same State for two years, but on November 15, 1904, he accepted the position of station agent and telegraph operator in Farmersburg, Iowa, and is still conducting the business of that thriving station, in a highly satisfactory manner. Mr. Darrow is a man of varied interests. Beside his station work he is also interested in a coal business, and is a director of a grain company of Farmersburg. He was united in marriage to Mary E. Gappa, April 10, 1907, and they are the proud and happy parents of two sons, Clarence A., and Lawrence M. Mr. Darrow belongs to the Democratic party, though not particularly active in political work, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Wilmer W. Davidson has won secure prestige as one of the representative younger members of the bar of Clayton county and is associated with his honored father, with residence in the fine little city of Elkader, the judicial center of the county. Mr. Davidson was born in Volga, this county, on the 10th of November, 1874, and is a son of Thomas Marion Davidson and Margaret E. (Wickham) Davidson, both of whom were born and reared in the State of Ohio and the marriage of whom was solemnized January 25, 1864, at which time the young husband was still in service as a gallant soldier of the Union in the Civil war. Thomas M. Davidson arrived in Clayton county, Iowa, on the 25th of October, 1856, and established his residence on a farm near Volga, thus becoming a resident of the county in the pioneer epoch of its history and having here maintained his home for half a century. When the Civil war was precipitated he subordinated all other interests to tender his aid in defense of the Union. He enlisted in Company F, Sixteenth United States Infantry, with which he proceeded to the front and entered upon his strenuous career as a soldier. While with a supply train en route between Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Nashville, Tennessee, he was taken prisoner by a party of Morgan's historic raiders, but was paroled three hours later. His exchange effected, he continued in active service during three years of the great internecine conflict, the last year having found him assigned to the position of duty sergeant and his honorable discharge having been received on the 12th of November, 1864. He took part in numerous engagements, including the memorable battle of Shiloh, and proved himself a leal and loyal soldier of the nation, his continued interest in his old comrades having in later years been signified by his appreciative affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. After the close of his military career Mr. Davidson returned to Clayton county and here he applied himself finally to the diligent study that prepared him for the legal profession, his admission to the bar having occurred in 1878, since which time he has continued in the active practice of his profession, with high standing as an able trial lawyer and well fortified counselor, and

with secure vantage ground as one of the leading members of the bar of Clayton county, where he has appeared in connection with much important litigation during the long period of nearly forty years that have recorded his successful labors in his chosen profession. In 1896 he was elected county attorney, and of this office he continued the incumbent eight years, his administration having been marked by efficiency and having added materially to his professional precedence. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he has been influential in its councils and campaign activities in Clayton county for many years. He and his wife became the parents of four children, the first two being twins, one of whom died at birth, the other twin, Elmer E., dying at Polk City at the age of 9 years. Margaret A. is the wife of Rev. Robert C. Lusk, who is a clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal church and who holds, in 1916, a pastoral charge at Marble Rock, Floyd county, this state; and Wilmer W., immediate subject of this review, is the youngest of the children. Wilmer W. Davidson continued his studies in the public schools of his native county until he had completed the curriculum of the Elkader high school, and within a short time after his graduation he entered the law department of Drake University, in the city of Des Moines, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1901, and from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He was forthwith admitted to the bar of his native state, and has been actively associated with his father in general practice since that time, with assured and well-proved reputation, both as a resourceful advocate and conservative counselor. His political support is given unreservedly to the Republican party, and no better voucher for his personal popularity can be found than in his incumbency of the office of mayor of Elkader, to which important municipal position he was elected for the second term in the spring of 1916 and in which he is giving, at the time of this writing, a most progressive and satisfactory administration. Both he and his father hold membership in the Clayton County Bar Association, and in Elkader he is affiliated with Elkader Lodge, No. 72, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, as well as with the adjunct chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and of the De Molay Consistory No. 1, also with the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. In November, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Davidson to Miss Mollie Beer, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Christian and Marie (Schori) Beer, the former of whom is deceased and the latter of whom still maintains her home in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson have a winsome little daughter, Ruth Marie, who was born April 6, 1911. ,

**G. Walter Davies** is a scion of the third generation of the Davies family in Clayton county and the name which he bears was not only one of prominence and influence in connection with the early stages of development and progress in the county but has also continued to exert distinctive force in the furthering of the civic and industrial prosperity of this favored section of the State,



with long and effective association with the basic enterprise of agriculture. He whose name initiates this paragraph is one of the representative farmers of Mendon township, known for his energy, progressiveness and good judgment in connection with business affairs and his loyalty to the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, so that it is but in natural sequence that to him goes forth the full tide of popular confidence and good will in the county that has ever been his home and in which he has found ample opportunity for effective achievement. Mr. Davies was born in Mendon township, this county, on the 6th of January, 1873, and is a son of Thomas M. and Louisa (West) Davies, the former of whom was born in Cumberlandshire, in the extreme northwestern part of England, on the 24th of September, 1842, and the latter of whom was born at Waukesha, Wisconsin. Thomas M. Davies was a lad of about ten years when he accompanied his parents on their removal from England to America, in 1852, and his father, Lewis Davies, became one of the pioneer settlers at McGregor, Clayton county, Iowa, in the vicinity of which now vigorous little city he obtained a tract of land and instituted the reclamation of a farm, both he and his wife having passed the residue of their lives on this old homestead. Thomas M. Davies gained his elementary education in his native land and supplemented this by attending the schools of McGregor. He continued to be associated with the operations of the home farm until there came to him the opportunity to pay the highest possible tribute of loyalty to his adopted country. With the outbreak of the Civil war he subordinated all else to go forth in defense of the Union. He enlisted in Company B, Fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he served as a gallant but youthful soldier until some time after the expiration of his term of enlistment. He was at the front with his command for a period of ten months and then received his honorable discharge, his continued interest in his old comrades in arms being indicated by his active affiliation with the post of the Grand Army of the Republic at McGregor, where he is now living virtually retired. After his return to Clayton county Mr. Davies engaged in farming on his own responsibility. In Mendon township he purchased a quarter section of fertile land, and there he continued his successful enterprise as an industrious and discriminating agriculturist and stock-grower until advancing years and generous prosperity justified his retirement from the heavy labors and responsibilities that had so long been his portion. He is aligned as a stalwart supporter of the cause of the Republican party, to which he has paid allegiance from the time of attaining to his legal majority, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Congregational church at McGregor. Of their children the subject of this review is the eldest; William is deceased; Birdie is the wife of Melvin Robbins, of this county; and Lillian and Harry remain at the parental home. G. Walter Davies gained his early education in the excellent schools of Mendon township and there continued to assist in the work and management of his father's farm until he had reached his legal majority. After being employed thereafter as a farm hand for one



year he initiated independent activities as a farmer, his operations being continued on rented land in his native township until 1901, when he purchased his present homestead place, his original purchase having been of one hundred and fifty-four acres, to which he has since added an adjoining tract of forty-six acres. Thrift and indomitable energy have been exemplified by Mr. Davies in his farming operations and he has achieved independent and substantial prosperity through his well-ordered endeavors, his excellent farm being devoted to diversified agriculture and the raising of approved grades of live stock. Mr. Davies was reared in the faith of the Republican party and such have been his personal convictions that he has never wavered in his allegiance to this staunch organization and his confidence in its ultimate return to supremacy in national affairs has not waned in the least. His progressiveness and public spirit have been shown in loyal support of community interests and in according co-operation in the furtherance of enterprises advanced for the general good of his native county and State. He is, in 1916, president of the Mendon Township Farmers' Institute, an office of which he has been the incumbent for two years, and prior to assuming this position he had served one year as vice-president. He has served since 1912 as school director of his district, and both he and his wife are zealous members of the Congregational church at McGregor. September 14, 1898, recorded the marriage of Mr. Davies to Miss Elma Haymond, daughter of George and Catherine (Doak) Haymond, of Winterset, Madison county. Mr. and Mrs. Davies have no children.

**Thomas M. Davies.**—That within the pages of this history of Clayton county it has been found possible to accord specific recognition to a goodly percentage of the sturdy and enterprising yeomen who are influential and honored exponents of the agricultural interests of this section of the State, can not but add greatly to the consistency and value of the publication, for Clayton is essentially an agricultural county, with resources and advantages not to be excelled, with the logical result that the great basic industry constitutes the nucleus around which has been evolved the general prosperity that now marks this favored section of the Hawkeye commonwealth. Though Thomas M. Davies is to be considered as one of the older but still active and influential representatives of agricultural and live-stock industry in Clayton county, it is specially interesting to record that he has been a resident of the county from early youth and is a scion of one of its honored pioneer families, besides which is his enduring distinction for having been one of the loyal and valiant young men who went forth from Iowa to serve as soldiers of the Union in the Civil war. He resides upon and gives his personal supervision to his well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is eligibly situated in Mendon township, at a point within about four and one-half miles of the thriving little city of McGregor, from which place he receives service on rural mail route number One. Mr. Davies was born in Cumberlandshire, England, on the 25th of September, 1842, and thus was a lad of about ten at the time of the family

immigration to the United States, in 1853. He is a son of Lewis and Mary Anne (Michell) Davies, the former a native of Montgomeryshire and the latter of Cumberlandshire, England. In his native land the father continued to follow the vocation of miner until 1853, when he came with his family to America and numbered himself among the pioneers of Iowa. After remaining for a brief period in Dubuque he came to the wilds of Clayton county and obtained a tract of land in what is now Giard township. Here he reclaimed and developed a productive farm, and on this pioneer homestead he and his noble wife passed the remainder of their lives in peace and prosperity and in the inviolable esteem of all who knew them. Both were communicants of the Church of England and after coming to the United States they continued in the same faith, here defined as that of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Lewis Davies contributed his quota to the civic and material development and progress of Clayton county, was a man of strong mentality and sterling character and took deep interest in the communal welfare, his political support having been given to the cause of the Republican party. Of the children of this honored pioneer John, the first-born, went forth as a soldier of the Union when the integrity of the nation was jeopardized by armed rebellion, and he sacrificed his life in a righteous cause, as he was killed in the battle of Vicksburg; Thomas M., subject of this review, was the second child; Daniel maintains his residence at McGregor, this county; William is deceased; James is a prosperous farmer in Giard township; Lewis resides in the vicinity of the city of Spokane, Washington; George is a resident of the State of Idaho; Sarah is deceased; Mary is the widow of Jacob Heffner and maintains her home at Stillwater, Minnesota; and Richard remains in Clayton county, as one of the representative farmers of Mendon township. Thomas M. Davies gained his early education in his native land and after the family home had been established in Clayton county he continued to attend the pioneer schools when opportunity offered, but in the meanwhile found definite requisition for his services in connection with the development and general operations of his father's farm. Such was his association when the Civil war was precipitated, and in 1864, within a short time after attaining to his legal majority, he enlisted as a private in Company B, Fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he served faithfully and gallantly until the close of the war, with a record of having been one of the boys in blue who took part in Sherman's ever memorable march from Atlanta to the sea. He participated in numerous engagements and effectually proved his loyalty to the nation to which he has paid appreciative allegiance since his boyhood. For two years after the close of the war Mr. Davies rented his father's farm, and he then purchased eighty acres of his present homestead, to which he later added an adjoining eighty acres, so that he is now the owner of a well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, the general appearance of which breathes of unmistakable thrift and prosperity and indicates the progressive policies and methods which the owner has brought to bear. The

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FRANCIS T. DAVIS AND WIFE

excellent buildings on the place have been erected by Mr. Davies, and the greater part of other permanent improvements have been wrought under his effective supervision. Well-earned prosperity and comfort are his, and now, in the gracious twilight of a well-spent life, he may feel that his lines have been cast in pleasant places. He has never sought public office but has loyally supported the measures and enterprises that have tended to foster the general welfare of the community and has not faltered in allegiance to the Republican party. He was reared in the faith of the Church of England, as was also his wife, but both have been for many years earnest members of the Congregational Church at McGregor. In that attractive little city is maintained also his affiliation with the post of the Grand Army of the Republic, through the medium of which he vitalizes the more gracious associations and memories of his military career. On the 4th of March, 1873, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Davies to Miss Louisa West, who was born near Madison, the beautiful capital city of Wisconsin, and the date of whose nativity was March 12, 1849. Mrs. Davies was the first-born of a family of six children, all of whom are still living except the second, Mozella. Jeanette is the wife of Charles Weston and they reside in the State of Oklahoma; George was the next in order of birth; Albert maintains his home in Oklahoma, and Edward resides at Clermont, Fayette county, Iowa. George and Louisa (Webb) West, the parents of Mrs. Davies, were natives respectively of England and Paris, France, and their marriage was solemnized in the city of London. They came to the United States in 1848 and became pioneers of Wisconsin, where they remained until their removal to Clayton county, Iowa. Here Mr. West secured a tract of land and began the development of a farm, this homestead having continued as his place of residence until his death, which occurred December 29, 1864. He was a Republican in politics, served as township clerk in the earlier period of Clayton county history, and both he and his wife were communicants of the Church of England. Mrs. West long survived her honored husband and passed the closing period of her life in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Davies, where she was summoned to eternal rest on the 25th of July, 1896, venerable in years and loved by all who had come within the compass of her gentle influence. All of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Davies are living with the exception of the second, William L., who is deceased; Walter is a successful representative of agricultural enterprise in Mendon township; Birdie is the wife of M. J. Robbins, of the same township; Lillie G., who was married Sept. 4, 1916, to C. G. Messinger, of Fonda, Ia.; and Harry T., who remains at the parental home.

**Francis T. Davis** has been a resident of Clayton county for nearly half a century, has here exerted his energies effectively along normal lines of industrial and business enterprise and for nearly a quarter of a century he and his wife have maintained their home on their splendid farm of four hundred and eighty acres, in Section 5, Sperry township. Their first domicile on this now finely improved estate was a log house of the true pioneer type, and their present commodious and modern residence is an

ideal home in which they are enjoying peace and prosperity as the shadows of their lives begin to lengthen from the golden west. Mr. Davis claims the old Empire state as the place of his nativity, was about twenty years of age at the time when he accompanied his parents to Minnesota, from which state he soon afterward went forth as a Union soldier in the Civil war, after the close of which he came to Clayton county, Iowa, where he has maintained his home during the long intervening years that have crowned his labors with large and well-merited success. Mr. Davis was born in the city of Utica, New York, on the 7th of July, 1840, and in the schools of his native state he gained his early educational training. He is a son of Josiah and Emily (Wadsworth) Davis, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Connecticut, and in 1861 he accompanied his parents on their immigration to Minnesota, where they became pioneer settlers on a farm near Winona, and where his honored father and mother passed the remainder of their lives. Of their six children only two are now living. Soon after the family home had been established in Minnesota the Civil war was precipitated, and Francis T. Davis forthwith manifested his youthful patriotism by enlisting in Company I, Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in which he was made corporal of his company. Corporal Davis proved a loyal and valiant soldier and his active service as such covered a period of one year, at the expiration of which he was mustered out and accorded an honorable discharge. In later years he has vitalized the memories and association of his military career by maintaining affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Davis was mustered out in the city of St. Paul and thereafter he was employed in a flour mill in Minnesota until 1868, when he came to Clayton county and assumed a position as a skilled miller in the only flour and grist mill that was then operated at Elkader, the county seat. There he continued his services in this capacity for a period of fourteen years, at the expiration of which he and his wife purchased and removed to their present farm, which has been their home during the years that have since elapsed. Mr. Davis has always given unqualified allegiance to the Republican party, has been loyal and public-spirited as a citizen, but has had no ambition for public office, though he served a number of years as a member of the school board of his district. His wife holds membership in the Baptist church, and prior to her marriage Mrs. Davis had been a successful and popular teacher in the schools of Clayton county, the fine farm on which she now lives having been the old homestead of her parents. On Oct. 23d, 1871, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Davis to Miss H. Eliza Cummings, who was born in Vermillion county, Illinois, and who is a daughter of Frederick G. and Sophia (Douglas) Cummings, both natives of the state of Maine and representatives of sterling families that were founded in New England in the colonial period of our national history. The parents of Mrs. Davis became pioneer settlers in Vermillion county, Illinois, where they established their home about the year 1838 and where they remained four years. For the ensuing four years



they continued their pioneer experience in the state of Wisconsin, and they then came to Clayton county, Iowa, and settled on the pioneer farm which has been developed into the splendid modern homestead now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Davis. Here the parents passed the residue of their lives, and of their seven children four are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Davis became the parents of three children, of whom the youngest, Edwin W., died at the age of six years; Frederick now has the active management of the old homestead farm, is married and has two children; Jennie is the wife of Thomas A. Kitterman, of this county, and they have three children.

**Edmund De Graw**, was born in Ontario, Canada, August 16, 1847, but came to Clayton county, Iowa, at the very early age of four years, with his parents, Asa and Mary (Ferguson) De Graw, both natives of the Old Dominion. They made the long and toilsome journey overland, driving a team of horses from Canada to McGregor, Iowa, thence to Monona, Clayton county, arriving here in 1851, where they settled upon the farm that was their home until the close of their lives. They were the parents of two children, Edmund, the subject of this review, and Alvina, the wife of William Smith, residing in Hardin, Iowa. Mr. De Graw dutifully cared for his parents during their lives, but after their deaths he sold the old homestead and came to Monona, Iowa, where he bought the place he now owns, and upon which he is profitably engaged in general farming and stock raising. He married Miss Ella Butts, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of Andrew J. and Eliza (De Force) Butts. Mr. Butts was a native of New York state, but his father, Samuel Butts, removed to Iowa, where he resided until his death in Fayette county. He responded to the call of his country in the Civil War, and served in Company F of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry. Mrs. De Graw was the eldest of six children born to her parents, of whom she and her sister Anna, the wife of William Skepreth, of Omaha, Nebraska, are the only two living. Forand, Carrie, Lola, and Minnie have all been taken by death. Mr. and Mrs. De Graw have been blessed with ten children, all of whom are living: Edith, the wife of Mr. Clark Bothel, of Malcolm, Iowa; Ernest, of Cedar Falls; Earl, of Waukon; Ross, of Monona; Grace, now Mrs. Charles Bothel, of Madison, South Dakota; Ethel, the wife of W. N. Carr, of Malcolm, Iowa; Glenn, residing with his parents; Hazel, the wife of Mathew Wiley, of Montezuma, Iowa; Cleo, wife of Asa Briar, of Waukon; and Lylal, living at home. Mr. De Graw is a Republican in politics, and is a member of the Methodist church.

**Joseph Desotel** is consistently to be accorded recognition as one of the progressive representatives of agricultural and live-stock industry in Clayton county, and his operations are carried forward on his well-improved farm in his native township of Millville, where his father established a home nearly seventy years ago, so that the family name has been identified with the civic and industrial history of the county since the early pioneer days. Joseph Desotel, Jr., the immediate subject of this review, was born in Millville

township on the 6th of April, 1874, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (DeBruiette) Desotel, both representatives of sterling old French families that were founded in the Dominion of Canada generations ago. The parents were born and reared in Montreal, Canada, and the father came to Clayton county, Iowa, about 1840. He purchased land in what is now Millville township, became one of the earliest settlers of that part of the county and there reclaimed and developed a productive farm. About two years prior to his death he removed to the village of Guttenberg, where he passed the remainder of his life in well-earned retirement and where he died in the year 1906, his wife passing away soon after and both having been earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. Desotel was a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and served for some time as township trustee. Of the children the eldest is Lena, who is the wife of William Kiefer, their home being in the city of Chicago; Lucy is the wife of George Blodgett; Amelia is the wife of Jacob Franks, of Colesburg, Iowa; Louise is deceased; Louis is a resident of Guttenberg, this county; Maxim is deceased, the subject of this sketch having been the next in order of birth and the eighth child, Josephine, being deceased; August resides at Colesburg, William at Turkey River, John at Muscatine, George at Guttenberg, and Mary in the city of Dubuque; Elizabeth is the wife of Charles LaPage; Emma is also married; Nellie is the wife of Daniel McMullen, of Dubuque; and Edward resides at Guttenberg. Joseph Desotel, Jr., gained his early education in the schools at Turkey River and continued his association with the work of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-two years, when he rented a farm and initiated his independent career as an agriculturist and stock-grower. Finally he purchased his present excellent farm, which comprises eighty acres and which is eligibly situated in Millville township, on rural mail route No. 2 from the village of Guttenberg. With marked energy and progressiveness he is giving special attention to stock-farming, and is a successful breeder and grower of Durham and Galloway cattle and Poland-China swine. He is a Republican in politics and both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. On the 16th of February, 1897, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Desotel to Miss Emma Timm, who was born in Millville township, on the 3d of October, 1874, and who is a daughter of Christ and Mary (Kieckbush) Timm, who were born in Germany and who became pioneer settlers in Clayton county. The father died on his homestead farm in Millville township and his widow now resides at Guttenberg. He was a Republican in his political adherency and was a lifelong communicant of the Lutheran church, as has been also his venerable widow. Mr. and Mrs. Desotel have five children: Charles, Emil, Otto, Hilda and Marie.

**Henry H. Diers**, owner and progressive manager of the fine landed estate known as the Center Valley Stock Farm, in Section 4, Read Township, specially merits recognition in this history of his native county, for he is a member of one of its sterling pioneer families, is known as one of the representative agriculturists and

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MARTIN DITTMER

prominent stockgrowers of the county, and has the distinction of owning and residing upon the old homestead farm on which his birth occurred November 20, 1873. He is a son of Frederick W. and Margaret (Schneider) Diers, who were born in Germany but who were children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to the United States. They are now honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county and reside on the old home place, and of their children four are living. They are Henry H., Mrs. Dr. W. A. Miller, of Elkader; Mrs. Frieda Hagensich, of Reed township; Alma, at home. They lost two children, Emma, who died, aged 3 years, and one who died in infancy. Henry H. Diers profited by the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native city, including the high school at Elkader, and his activities of a practical order have always been in connection with the operations of the well improved homestead which he now owns, the property having been rented by him from his father for several years after his marriage, which occurred in 1900. Some years after he had thus assumed connubial responsibilities he purchased the property, which comprises two hundred and eighty acres and which constitutes one of the model landed estates of Clayton county. Mr. Diers is giving special and successful attention to the breeding and raising of thoroughbred shorthorn cattle and registered Poland-China and Duroc-Jersey swine, fine specimens of each of which he has for sale for breeding and general farm purposes at all times. He has been for twenty years the efficient and valued secretary of the school board of his district, is a member of the directorate of the St. Olaf Savings Bank, the Farmersburg & St. Olaf Creamery Company, and the Poland-China & Duroc Swine Association, and is significantly to be designated as one of the most progressive and loyal citizens of Read township. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. In 1900 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Diers to Miss Emelie Best, who was born in Read township and who is one of the six children, all living, of William and Minnie (Schmidt) Best, who were children when they accompanied their parents to America from Germany and who early became residents of Clayton county. Mr. Best is still one of the representative farmers of Read township and his devoted wife passed to the life eternal in the year 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Diers have two children, Alice M., who was born April 1, 1901, and Willis F., who was born June 2, 1903.

**Gustav Dittmer, Jr.,** is a representative of well known pioneer families of Clayton county, where he was born, in Jefferson township, on the 1st of February, 1879, and he now maintains his home in the progressive little city of Guttenberg, where he controls a prosperous business as a carpenter and builder. He is a son of Martin and Carolina (Aulwes) Dittmer, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in Clayton county, where her parents established a home in the pioneer days and soon after their emigration from Germany. Martin Dittmer was a young man when he came to Clayton county, in 1850, and in Jefferson town-

ship he obtained a tract of land and developed one of the valuable farms of the county. He was one of the successful farmers and honored citizens of Jefferson township at the time of his death, on the 12th of May, 1914, and his venerable widow now maintains her home at Guttenberg. Martin Dittmar became well known for his musical ability, and as a cornet player he was identified with one of the excellent bands early organized in Clayton county. He gave his political support to the Republican party, was influential in community affairs in his township and was an earnest communicant of the Lutheran church, as is also his widow. Of their children the eldest two, Henry and William, now reside at Ireton, Sioux county; the subject of this sketch was the third child; and the youngest, Augusta, is the wife of John Rademacher, of Guttenberg. Gustav Dittmer, Jr., was reared to adult age on the home farm, made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools and from 1902 until 1912 he had the active management of the home farm. He then removed to Guttenberg, where he purchased a good residence property, and where he has since given his attention vigorously and successfully to work at the carpenter's trade and where he has become one of the representative contractors and builders of this part of the county. He is now serving as assessor of Guttenberg, Ia., and is the incumbent also of the office of constable. His political allegiance is given unreservedly to the Republican party, and while still on the farm he served two terms as trustee of his native township. He is the owner of a well improved farm in Sioux county, Iowa. Both he and his wife are communicants and liberal supporters of the Lutheran church at Guttenberg. November 12, 1902, recorded the marriage of Mr. Dittmer to Miss Clara Fredelake, who was born and reared at Guttenberg, and whose parents, Henry and Salina (Voss) Fredelake, still maintain their home in this village, the father being in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad. Mr. Fredelake was born in Germany and his wife in Clayton county, where her parents settled in the pioneer days. Concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Fredelake, brief record may consistently be entered at this juncture: Anna is the wife of William Dittman, of Ireton, Sioux county; Mary is the wife of Benjamin Aulwes, of Guttenberg; the wife of the subject of this sketch was the next in order of birth; George resides at Guttenberg and John at Madison, Wisconsin; Augusta is the wife of John Cassatt, of Guttenberg, in which village also reside Henry and Otto; Hilda is the wife of Albert Reed, of Gregory, Missouri; and Elsie remains at the parental home. Mr. and Mrs. Dittmer have two children—Leslie John and Dorothy Caroline Marie.

**Herman Dittmer** is to be considered specially favored in the status that is his as the owner of one of the splendidly improved landed estates of his native county and further prestige is his by reason of his being the owner of the farm, in Section 30, Cox Creek township, where he was born, on the 4th of January, 1865, and where he has continued his activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower from his youth to the present time. He is one of the lead-



ing exponents of these basic lines of industrial enterprise in his native township and county and is a wide-awake, broad-minded and progressive citizen who well merits consideration in this history. Mr. Dittmer is a son of Peter and Magdalena (Banke) Dittmer, who were born in Germany and who became residents of Clayton county in the early '60s. The father became one of the most enterprising and successful farmers of Cox Creek township, contributed his quota to the civic and material advancement of the county and commanded secure place in the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He remained on his old homestead farm until his death, at the age of 75 years, and here his venerable widow still resides, in the midst of the hallowed memories and associations of the past. She is a devout communicant of the German Lutheran church, as was also her husband, and the latter was a Democrat in his political proclivities. Of their children, the first-born was Annie, who died in young womanhood; Lizzie is the wife of Jacob Stemmer, of Elkader; Martin is deceased; Mary is the wife of Adolph Elvers, of this county; and Herman, of this review, who is the owner of the old homestead, where his loved mother remains with him and is accorded the deepest filial solicitude. The district schools afforded to Herman Dittmer his early educational advantages and his long and effective association with the work and management of the home farm have made him doubly appreciative of its value and its manifold attractions. His landed estate now comprises four hundred and seventy acres of fertile land, in Section 30, Cox Creek township, and the residence, a substantial and commodious stone building, is one of the fine rural homes of the county. All improvements on the place are of the best order and the most approved of modern machinery, implements and other accessories are used in carrying forward operations in general agriculture and the raising of the best grades of live stock. Mr. Dittmer has served as trustee of his native township, is a stalwart supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and both he and his wife hold membership in the German Lutheran church, their attractive home receiving service on rural mail route No. 3 from the village of Strawberry Point. In 1894 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Dittmar to Miss Clara Meder, who is a representative of one of the honored and influential families of Clayton county, adequate record of the family history being given on other pages, in the sketch of the career of her father, Henry Meder. Mr. and Mrs. Dittmer have three children, all of whom remain at the parental home—Arthur, Irene and Floyd.

**Walter C. Dittmer**, a native Iowan, was born in Elkader, Iowa, Feb. 14, 1890. His father was a well known citizen and an earnest and worthy endeavor to give to the world the best that was in him marked the course of his life. He was born on the 19th of January, 1858, in Hamburg, Germany, the son of Peter and Magdalena Dittmer. When a boy of three years he came with his parents to America and settled in Clayton county. After the family had lived several years near Communia, they purchased a farm in Cox Creek

township, which is now owned by Herman Dittmer, with whom the aged mother makes her home. When a young man Martin Dittmer came to Elkader and engaged in the lumber business with his brother-in-law, Jacob Stemmer. About 1896 they disposed of this business and started in the implement business under the title of Stemmer & Dittmer. Later Mr. Dittmer bought his partner's interest and took into partnership Mr. Ställman, under the firm name of Dittmer & Stallman. In 1911 Walter Dittmer was taken into the firm and an automobile agency was added to the business, dealing in the Studebaker and Velie machines, and meeting with a splendid measure of success. On September 14th, 1881, Martin Dittmer was united in matrimony with Katherine Dohrer of Clayton county, and they were the parents of three children: Walter, 26 years of age; Florence, who died when 5 years of age, and Roy, 16 years. Martin Dittmer took an active interest in the affairs of the community, and for seven years, from 1904 to 1911, was sheriff of Clayton county, in which capacity he served the people faithfully and conscientiously. He was a member of the school board at the time of his death, which occurred November 14, 1914. The funeral services were conducted by Elkader Lodge, No. 72, A. F. and A. M., of which he was an esteemed member. The Register & Argus, under date of November 19, 1914, said, "The great man of Elkader has fallen; the good man has been called from out of our midst. A shadow of gloom is cast not only on home and family but over our entire community. Not that death is unfamiliar to our minds, for every day death is exerting his solemn power upon the race of man, but there are instances where it is impressed more vividly on our minds and where it calls forth a profounder sentiment of sorrow. This is true today when we stand with bowed heads and throbbing hearts beside the last earthly remains of a beloved husband, father, brother, son, relative, friend and citizen, Martin Dittmer." Walter Dittmer received his education in the grade and high schools of his native town, and in a commercial college of Decorah, Iowa, completing his course in that institution in 1911, when he returned to Elkader to join his father in the implement business, as noted above. He is independent in politics and a member of the Masonic order.

**Gilbert S. Donaldson** stands forth as one of the most progressive and influential citizens and business men of the thriving village of McGregor, where he is the owner and operator of the well-equipped electric light and power plant that gives the best of service to the community. He has broad and accurate knowledge concerning applied electricity and was formerly associated with his father in the control of the plant of which he is now the sole owner, his residence at McGregor dating from the year 1902. Mr. Donaldson was born in New Jersey on the 5th of April, 1878, and his parents, Gilbert and Annie (Berryman) Donaldson, were born and reared in the State of New York. He whose name initiates this article was about 2 years of age at the time of the family removal to Minnesota, and there the devoted wife and mother was summoned to eternal rest on the 8th of September, 1888, the sub-

ject of this sketch being the eldest in a family of six children: William, the second son, is a resident of the city of Minneapolis; Lloyd maintains his home at Boise, Idaho; Jean is the wife of Professor George L. Martin, who is a member of the faculty of the University of Montana, at Bozeman; Jessie likewise is a resident of Bozeman, and Annie died in infancy. Gilbert Donaldson became prominently identified with business activities in Minnesota, where he continued his residence until 1902, when he came to Clayton county, Iowa, and became associated with his son, Gilbert S., in the ownership of the electric light and power plant at McGregor. Here he continued to maintain his home until 1909, when he sold his interest in the plant and business to his son and removed to the city of Boise, Idaho, where he now maintains his home. Gilbert S. Donaldson profited fully from the advantages afforded in the public schools of Minnesota and after his graduation in the Minneapolis high school he was for three years a student in the University of Minnesota. He then obtained a position in the employ of an electric manufacturing company of Minneapolis, with which he continued his association five years. He gained excellent experience in connection with practical electrical work and service, and after severing his association with the company mentioned he went to the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he remained for one year in the employ of the Bullock Electric Manufacturing Company. At the expiration of this period he came to McGregor, Iowa, where he formed a partnership association with his father in the ownership of the local electric light and power plant, of which he has been the sole owner since 1909, as previously stated, and the service of which he keeps up to the best modern standard. He is a loyal and public-spirited citizen, is a Republican in his political allegiance, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Congregational church. On the 10th of December, 1910, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Donaldson to Miss Caroline Peterson, who was born and reared at McGregor and who is a daughter of S. J. and Stella (Ramage) Peterson. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson have no children.

**Rev. Thomas Dowling.**—The great mother church of Christendom finds effective representation in Clayton county in St. Mary's Church at McGregor, of which Father Dowling was the revered and zealous pastor. His consecration has been shown not only in connection with the spiritual affairs of his parish, but also in his earnest labors to advance its temporal welfare, and in addition to this he stands forth as a broad-minded and public-spirited citizen who commands the high regard of the entire community. A devoted worker in the vineyard of the Divine Master, his labors have been fruitful in goodly results and his prominence and influence in the community life specially entitle him to representation in this history of Clayton county. Hard by the beautiful Lake Killarney, in Kings county, Ireland, Father Thomas Dowling was born on the 1st of February, 1878, a son of James and Hannah (Slattery) Dowling, both of whom were born and reared in that same district of the fair Emerald Isle, where the venerable father still maintains his home, the devoted wife and mother having passed to the life



eternal. Of the four children, Father Dowling of this review is the only one in America, and was the second in order of birth. John continues his residence in Kings county, Ireland, as do also Margaret and Diana, the former of whom is the wife of John J. Barry, and the latter of whom is the wife of O. Flaherty. In the common schools near the old home in Ireland Rev. Thomas Dowling acquired his rudimentary education, which was supplemented by his attending in turn the intermediate and the university schools in the seaport city of Tralee, in County Kerry. His higher academic studies were prosecuted in a seminary at Killarney, and in preparation for his high ecclesiastical functions he completed a thorough philosophical and theological course in St. Patrick's College, at Carlow, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1901. On the 1st of June of that year he was ordained to the priesthood, and within a short time thereafter he came to the United States. In September, 1901, he became assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Church in the city of Dubuque, Iowa, where he remained until January 1, 1911, when he assumed pastoral charge, as priest of St. Mary's parish at McGregor, where in his earnest and devoted labors he retained the zealous co-operation of his parishioners and the confidence and good will of the entire community. The parish organization under Rev. Father Dowling was represented in about one hundred families, and its property, including the church edifice, valued at about fifty thousand dollars. In connection with the work of the church there were maintained effectively the men's and the women's courts of the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Altar Society, and the League of the Sacred Heart. In the chapter in Volume I of this history, devoted to the work of the Catholic church of Clayton county will be found a complete history of this parish. Rev. Father Dowling was given charge at McGregor, January 1, 1911, and for more than five years he devoted himself with faithful diligence and well directed zeal to the spiritual and material welfare of his church and parishioners, earning the affection and esteem of all. It was with deep regret that the members of his congregation and the entire citizenship parted with him upon his transfer to the church at Eldora, Iowa, in the early months of 1916.

**John W. Downie.**—In connection with the various personal sketches appearing in this history it is most pleasing to note the large percentage of native sons of Clayton county who have here been born and reared under the sturdy discipline of the farm, who have continued to pay loyal allegiance to the fundamental art and industry of agriculture, and who stand forth as substantial farmers and stockgrowers of this opulent section of the Hawkeye State. Such an one is Mr. Downie, who is a representative of a well known and highly esteemed family of this county and whose prestige as a farmer bases its claims on his ownership and individual management of a fine landed estate of 212 acres in Boardman township, the improvements on the place and its general air of thrift making it one of the model farms of the county. On the homestead farm which is now his place of abode John W. Downie was born on the

2d of February, 1878, and he is a son of John and Ruth (Williams) Downie, the former of whom was born in the Dominion of Canada, of staunch Scottish lineage, and the latter of whom was born at Lockport, New York. John Downie was a man of strong intellectual powers and of mature judgment, with energy and resourcefulness in connection with business and imbued with those sterling attributes of character that ever beget objective confidence and good will. In his youth he became skilled as a surveyor and upon coming to Clayton county, Iowa, about the year 1841, he not only found much demand for his interposition along this important line of civil engineering work, but also made judicious investments in land, with the result that he eventually accumulated the large and valuable estate now represented in the fine farm owned and operated by his son John W., of this review. On his farm he lived in peace and plenty until the close of his life, his death having occurred in 1884. The only child of his first marriage was Henry R., who was a resident of Boardman township at the time of his death, when about 55 years of age. John Downie exemplified in his career the sturdy integrity and the business sagacity so typical of those of Scottish ancestry, and no citizen of Clayton county had more secure place in popular confidence and esteem. His political support was given to the Republican party and as a citizen he was well qualified for not a little of leadership in popular sentiment and enterprise. Mrs. Ruth (Williams) Downie long survived her honored husband and was 70 years of age at the time of her death, which occurred on the 12th of March, 1903, on the old homestead farm which had long been her place of residence, and which was endeared to her by many hallowed memories and associations. Of the five children the eldest is Lillian, who is the wife of Samuel D. Bergerson, of Berien Springs, Michigan; Rose was 39 years of age at the time of her death in 1903; Warren W. is now a resident of Harrington, Washington; Ray H. resides at Davenport, that state; and John W., of this review, is the youngest of the children as well as the only representative of the immediate family in Clayton county. To the public schools of this county John W. Downie is indebted for his early education, and he remained on the home farm until after the death of his mother and his sister Rose, both of whom passed away in the year 1903, as noted in the preceding paragraph. Thereafter he completed an effective course in a business college at La Crosse, Wisconsin, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1906, and soon afterward he assumed personal charge of the fine old homestead farm, to the supervision of which he has since devoted himself with marked efficiency and progressiveness, with the result that he stands forth as one of the essentially representative agriculturists and stock raisers of his native county, with secure place as a loyal and liberal citizen who merits the unqualified esteem in which he is uniformly held. Mr. Downie pays unfaltering allegiance to the Republican party and is zealous in support of its cause, though he has never manifested aught of ambition for public office. Both he and his wife attend the Congregational church and are popular factors in the represen-

tative social life of the community; the while their attractive home is known for its generous hospitality and good cheer. On the 7th of March, 1907, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Downie to Miss Leona Hulverson, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Lars L. and Isabel (Thompson) Hulverson, honored citizens of Boardman township. Mr. and Mrs. Downie have a winsome little daughter, Marjorie Lillian, who was born on the 5th of November, 1912.

**Julius Duerst** is proprietor and manager of the Franklin Hotel at Strawberry Point and is proving himself a most successful and popular hotel man in his native village, where he is maintaining his hotel at such a standard as to gain the appreciative supporting patronage of the traveling public and also of the local trade. He was born in the village that is now his home and the date of his nativity was August 20, 1869. He is one of the six surviving children of George and Mary (Brader) Duerst, who immigrated to America from Germany in the early '50s and who established their home in the city of Dubuque, Iowa, which then had little of metropolitan pretensions. In 1855, they came to Clayton county and established their residence at Strawberry Point, and here the father engaged in the work of his trade, that of tinner. Later he turned his attention to the selling of agricultural implements and machinery, and finally he became a traveling salesman for a wholesale shoe house. After having made a successful record of several years in this vocation he engaged in the general merchandise business at Strawberry Point, where he built up a prosperous enterprise and where he continued his active association with the same until 1890, since which time he has here lived virtually retired, his devoted wife having passed to eternal rest in 1890 and both having become communicants of the Lutheran church before leaving their native land. To the public schools of his native village Julius Duerst is indebted for his early educational advantages, and here he was employed as a salesman in mercantile establishments from his youth until April 1, 1916, when he became proprietor of the Franklin Hotel, to the management of which he and his wife have since given their effective attention, their house being the best hotel in Strawberry Point and receiving a substantial and profitable supporting patronage. Mr. Duerst has shown himself loyal and liberal as a citizen, is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party but has never sought or held public office. He is affiliated with the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as well as its adjunct organization, the Daughters of Rebekah, and holds membership also in the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. He and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. The year 1911 recorded the marriage of Mr. Duerst to Mrs. Emma (Baluff) Brink, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of John and Mary Jane (Nace) Baluff, both now deceased, the father having been a boy at the time of his parents' immigration from Germany and his wife having been born in Virginia. They became the parents of four children, of whom three are living. Mr. and Mrs. Duerst have



no children but Mrs. Duerst has one son by her former marriage, Bert Lee Brink, who is married and now resides in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Robert W. Duff**, the popular incumbent of the office of postmaster at Volga, has been prominently concerned with civic, industrial and general business activities in his native county, is a scion of an honored pioneer family of Clayton county and in both the agnatic and distaff lines traces his ancestry back to the staunchest of Scotch origin. As an influential and loyal citizen who commands unequivocal confidence and esteem in his native county, Mr. Duff is well entitled to recognition in this history. He was born in Highland township, this county, on the 3d of December, 1882, and is a son of William and Cecelia (Probert) Duff, both natives of Scotland. William Duff was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents on their immigration to America, and the family home was established in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was a young man when he numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county, where he settled in the early '50s and where he became one of the prosperous and representative farmers of Highland township. He was a man of superior mental gifts, was a citizen whose aid and influence were given to those enterprises that tended to conserve the social and material advancement of the county, his political allegiance was given to the Democratic party and he was an earnest member of the Presbyterian church, as is also his widow, who now resides at Volga and who is one of the loved pioneer women of the county. Mr. Duff met a tragic death, being killed by a bull, this deplorable accident having occurred January 17, 1899. Of the children the first-born was William, Jr., who died at the age of four years; Nettie, the next born, lives with her mother; Mayme is the wife of William Glasgow, of Garden City, Kansas; George is deceased; John is a resident of Highland township; Isabel remains with her widowed mother; Mary is the wife of Arthur R. Kunzman, of Volga, and her twin brother, Albert, resides at Volga, Iowa. Robert W. Duff was reared under the sturdy discipline of the home farm and after profiting by the advantages afforded in the public schools he continued his studies in a college at Fayette and in Lenox College, at Hopkinton, this state, in the normal department of which latter institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1904. In the meanwhile he had made an excellent record as a teacher in the schools of his home county, and after his graduation he continued his services in the pedagogic profession for seven terms. He then engaged in the general merchandise business at Volga, and in connection therewith developed a large and prosperous business in the buying and shipping of live poultry for C. E. Lovett. He shipped most of the poultry to New York City, and in connection with his operations had occasion to make twenty-seven trips to the national metropolis. In 1911 Mr. Duff was elected secretary and general manager of the Farmers' Co-operative Commission & Creamery Company at Volga, and to the duties of this dual office he gave his careful and effective attention until the 1st of January, 1915, when he assumed

his present office, that of postmaster of Volga, his appointment having been made on the 17th of the preceding November. This preferment in itself indicates that he has been influential as a Clayton county representative of the Democratic party, and his administration in the office of postmaster has been marked by progressiveness and by the bringing of the service up to the highest possible standard. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church. On the 2d of October, 1908, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Duff to Miss Augusta Brabandt, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county, and the one child of this union is a fine son, Cecil W., who was born May 10, 1910.

**William Duwe** has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a lad of about ten years, and he has maintained his home in the county for more than sixty years, within which he has won for himself distinctive independence and prosperity, shown himself loyal and upright in all things and thus gained inviolable place in popular confidence and good will. He is now living virtually retired in the village of Clayton and is well entitled to representation in this history. Mr. Duwe was born in Germany, on the 28th of March, 1843, and is a son of George and Fredericka Duwe, who immigrated to America in 1853 and established their home in the pioneer German colony at Guttenberg, Clayton county. The mother lived only three weeks after the arrival of the family in America, and of her nine children five are now living. The father eventually became one of the representative farmers of Clayton county, and here his death occurred about the year 1875. William Duwe gained his rudimentary education in his native land and after the coming of the family to America he attended the pioneer schools of Clayton county for some time. He continued to assist his father in the work of the home farm until he had arrived at his legal majority, and he then rented a farm for one year. He next purchased a farm, but after residing on the same about one year he traded the property for a house and lot in the village of Guttenberg, where he established his residence in 1865 and where he continued to remain until 1873, when he sold his property at Guttenberg and removed to the village of Clayton, where he conducted a hotel and retail liquor business for many years and with marked success. He retired from active business in 1897 and he and his wife have since lived in peace and prosperity in their attractive village home at Clayton. Mr. Duwe is a staunch advocate of the principles and policies of the Democratic party, was for a number of years a member of the school board and has served several terms as township trustee of Clayton township, a position of which he is the valued incumbent at the time of this writing. He gives liberal support to the Catholic church, of which his wife is a devoted communicant. In the year 1863 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Duwe to Miss Mary Ann Osterdock, who was born in the state of Indiana and who was a child at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, where her parents passed the remainder of their lives on a farm, she being now the only one living of their three children. Mrs. Duwe is a daughter of Dominic and Mary (Cabel) Osterdock, the former a

native of France and the latter of Germany. Upon coming to America the parents established their home in Indiana, where they remained until 1846, when they became pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, where they passed the remainder of their lives, as previously stated in this context. In conclusion is entered brief record concerning the children of Mr. Duwe, and incidentally it may first be stated that they have six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Of their children the firstborn was George L., who died at the age of thirty-three years; Amelia L. is the wife of Christ Beckman, who is now manager of a pump factory in the city of Des Moines; Anna M. is the wife of Edward J. Crawford, of Dubuque; William H. resides in the city of Spokane, Washington, and is employed as an inspector in the service of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company; Elizabeth E. is the wife of Floyd Duff and they maintain their home in the city of Portland, Oregon, Mr. Duff being in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

**Hal M. Eaton, D. D. S.**, is engaged in the successful practice of dentistry in his native town of Strawberry Point, and is known as one of the skilled and representative exponents of his profession in Clayton county. He maintains an attractively appointed office, with the most approved equipment in both operative and laboratory departments, and his success has eminently justified his choice of vocation. The doctor was born at Strawberry Point on the 8th of April, 1873, and is a son of Dr. Adelbert D. and Nellie (Renwick) Eaton, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Illinois. The father prepared himself thoroughly for the dental profession and established his home at Strawberry Point about the year 1855. He was one of the pioneer representatives of his profession in Clayton county, was a man of sterling character and genial personality, and he not only built up a large and lucrative professional business but also stood forth as a specially progressive and public-spirited citizen. He continued his residence at Strawberry Point until his death, which occurred on the 12th of April, 1892, his widow still maintaining her home here. Of the children the eldest is Claude, who resides at Strawberry Point; Winifred is the wife of L. S. Chase, of Oakland, California; the subject of this review was the next in order of birth; Carl is now a resident of Adams, Wisconsin; Blanche resides in the city of Dubuque; and Miss Trixie is with her sister in Oakland, California. Dr. Hal M. Eaton gained his early education in the public schools of Strawberry Point and in the meanwhile, when fourteen years of age, he here found employment in a drug store. He devoted three years to service in this connection and then began the study of dentistry under the able preceptorage of his father. To perfect himself in his chosen vocation he finally entered the department of dentistry of the University of Iowa, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1895 and from which he received his degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. His native town has been the stage of his professional activities during virtually the entire period of his practice, and he is one of the wideawake, loyal and public spirited citizens of Strawberry Point, where his popularity has been shown by his election



to the office of mayor, in which he gave a progressive and acceptable administration. The doctor is not a partisan in politics but gives his support to men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment. He is affiliated with the local organizations of the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic fraternity. On the 14th of November, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Eaton to Miss Myrtle Gilchrist, who was born and reared in this county, and their only child is Myrwyn, who was born July 30, 1902.

**Edward P. Eberhard** has gained precedence as one of the vigorous and representative business men of his native county and village and owns and conducts a large and prosperous lumber manufacturing business at Guttenberg, where he has a well equipped mill, the same being devoted to the production of hardwood lumber and in connection with the business Mr. Eberhard gives employment to an average force of forty men during the entire year. In connection with his milling enterprise he has also done an appreciable amount of important rock contract work for the government. He is a progressive man of affairs, a loyal and broad-minded citizen, and his character and achievement have given him secure place in popular confidence and esteem. He has served as a member of the city council of Guttenberg and also as a member of the board of education, and his fraternal affiliation being with the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. Edward P. Eberhard was born at Guttenberg, this county, on the 15th of December, 1871, and is a son of Andrew and Catherine (Blankenheim) Eberhard, both of whom were born in the Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany. Upon establishing his residence in Clayton county Andrew Eberhard first located on a farm near Elkport, but he later engaged in the farm-implement business at Guttenberg, where he continued his association with this line of enterprise until his death. He passed to the life eternal in the year 1885, and his venerable widow still maintains her home in Guttenberg. He was one of the substantial, honored and influential citizens of Clayton county, was a Democrat in politics, and served not only as a member of the county board of supervisors but also as a member of the school board of Guttenberg. Of their children, the eldest is Augusta, who remains with her widowed mother; Sanzie is the wife of William Ball, of Garnavillo, this county; Louis is deceased; Edward P., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Mary died in childhood. After having duly profited by the advantages of the public schools of Guttenberg, Edward P. Eberhard was employed for several years by the local firm of Zimmerman & Ives, engaged in the manufacturing of pine lumber. In 1910 he became the owner and operator of his present hardwood mill, and he has made of the business a splendid success, as he has brought to bear indomitable energy, much administrative ability and mature judgment. He has associated with him his son Eugene in this business. On the 5th of April, 1893, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Eberhard to Miss Louisa Aulwes, who was born and reared in this county, a daughter of William and Catherine Aulwes, of Jefferson township. Mr. and Mrs. Eberhard have three children—Elsie, Eugene and Alo.

Elsie is now the wife of Irwin Chatsworth, of Guttenberg; Eugene is married to Olga Eckart, daughter of J. P. Eckart, and the other two children remain at the parental home.

**John P. Eckart** is a man whose initiative ability and progressive business policies have made him an influential figure in connection with the banking business and other lines of enterprise in his native village and county, and he has made a splendid record in connection with the development of the substantial business controlled by the Guttenberg State Bank, of which he was the virtual founder, as he was the promoter of its organization, in the year 1900, and has served as its efficient and popular cashier from the time of its incorporation to the present. Its original board of directors included also the following named and representative citizens: Henry Eckart, Thomas S. Ives, John Wolter, James E. Corlett, and Henry Brandt. The bank was incorporated with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars, and its first executive corps was as here noted: President, Thomas S. Ives; vice-president, John Wolter; cashier, John P. Eckart. For the accommodation of the new institution a substantial and modern building of two stories and basement was erected, and the same is owned and utilized by the bank with the second floor equipped and rented for office purposes. The personnel of the executive officers in the year 1916 is as here designated: President, Henry Eckart; vice-president, Thomas S. Ives; cashier, John P. Eckart; assistant cashier, Oscar B. Eckart. In addition to the president and vice-president the present directorate includes also Henry Brandt, F. X. Wollers and H. J. Overbeck. The administration of the affairs of the Guttenberg State Bank has been marked by circumspection and progressive policies, though its business has been directed at all times along careful and conservative lines. Its total deposits are now nearly \$400,000, and its surplus fund is twelve thousand five hundred dollars. It is one of the substantial and well ordered financial institutions of Clayton county and its upbuilding reflects special credit and distinction upon its able and popular cashier. John P. Eckart was born at Guttenberg, his present place of residence, and the date of his nativity was May 17, 1864. He is a son of Henry and Dorothea (Benecke) Eckart, both natives of Prussia, in which part of the great German Empire the father was born in Braunweiler Kunznacht and the mother in Seehausen, Kingdom of Saxony. Henry Eckart was reared and educated in his native land, where he learned the trade of blacksmith, and in 1852 he immigrated to America. He remained in the State of New York for some time and on the 9th of April, 1856, he established his home at Guttenberg, Clayton county, Iowa, where he engaged in the work of his trade and established one of the pioneer blacksmith shops of the county. He assisted in the erection of the first bridge across the Mississippi river in this locality and he continued in the work of his trade for nearly half a century, his retirement from the same having occurred in 1892. He has long been one of the honored and influential citizens of Guttenberg, his integrity being as sturdy as the vocation which he long followed, and he has contributed his quota to the civic and material develop-

ment and upbuilding of Clayton county, where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. Mr. Eckart is living virtually retired, though he is president of the Guttenberg State Bank. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, he served as a member of the village council for a long period and was the resourceful and loyal mayor of Guttenberg for several terms. He is a zealous communicant of the Lutheran church, as was also his wife, who was summoned to eternal rest on the 10th of October, 1894. Of their children the eldest is Henry C., who is a representative citizen of Guttenberg; Ida remains with her venerable father in the pleasant home at Guttenberg; John P., the immediate subject of this review, was the next in order of birth; Augusta is the wife of Francis X. Wolter, of Guttenberg; Herman is a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah; Clara is the wife of Frederick J. Brezinsky, of Mankato, Minnesota; and Oscar B. is assistant cashier of the Guttenberg State Bank. After making effective use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native village John P. Eckart completed a business college course. Under the direction of his father he gained facility in the work of the blacksmith trade, and he worked in his father's shop five years, after which he was employed as clerk in a mercantile establishment at Lemars, Plymouth county, until 1889. For two years thereafter he was a commercial traveling salesman for the house of Hood, Bonbright & Company, of Philadelphia, and he next passed about a year as salesman in a leading mercantile establishment in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota. He then returned to his native village, where he erected and placed in operation the Excelsior mill, in 1892. He continued in control of this industrial enterprise for the ensuing eighteen months and then engaged in the banking business at Brush Creek. Fifteen months later he sold his interest in this business and returned to Guttenberg, where he engaged in and developed a specially successful clothing business. In 1900 he organized the Guttenberg State Bank, to the executive affairs of which he has since given the major part of his time and attention, though he is serving also as treasurer of the Guttenberg Canning Company, in which he is one of the principal stockholders. Mr. Eckart is a staunch advocate of the cause of the Republican party and while he takes a lively interest in public affairs of a local order he has not sought official preferment, though he served several terms as township treasurer. As a progressive and public-spirited citizen Mr. Eckart assisted in the organization of the Upper Mississippi Improvement Society, of which important organization he is serving as treasurer. In 1906 he was concerned in the organization of the National River & Harbor Congress, in the city of Washington, and he has taken lively interest in the work of the organization. On the 31st of July, 1894, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Eckart to Miss Linnie K. Bormann, daughter of August and Mena (Kottman) Bormann, of Elkader, this county. The four children of this union are: Olga D., who is the wife of Eugene Eberhard, of Guttenberg; and Una M., Agnes G., and Ila H., who remain at the parental home.



**Oscar B. Eckart**, the popular incumbent of the position of assistant cashier of the Guttenberg State Bank, is proving an efficient and valued coadjutor of his brother, John P. Eckart, who is the cashier of the institution and who is made the subject of individual mention on other pages of this work, in which connection is given also brief record concerning his parents, honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county, the information thus given rendering it unnecessary to repeat the family data in the sketch here presented. Oscar B. Eckart was born at Guttenberg, on the 5th of December, 1884, and after having made good use of the advantages afforded in the excellent public schools of his native city he took a course of higher study in the Iowa State Agricultural College, at Ames. After leaving college he was for a time employed in the Guttenberg State Bank, and in 1904 he went to the city of St. Louis, Missouri, but after having there been employed a short interval he made his way to Chicago, in which great metropolis he passed nine months in the employ of Lyon Brothers, engaged in the wholesale general merchandise business. He then returned to Guttenberg, in the fall of 1905, where he has since served with marked efficiency as assistant cashier of the Guttenberg State Bank, one of the substantial financial institutions of Clayton county. He is serving also as city treasurer, is a Republican in politics, and is affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Mystic Workers. On the 21st of November, 1912, Mr. Eckart wedded Miss Irene Kathryn Bunke, daughter of Joseph F. and Helen E. (Kriebs) Bunke. She was born in Omaha, Nebr., Sept. 14, 1886, moving with her mother to Clayton county when ten years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Eckart have two children—Dorothea Helen, who was born June 22, 1913; and Kathryn Ida, who was born October 20, 1915.

**John Eglseider** owns and effectively operates in his native township a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and he is recognized as one of the vigorous and resourceful agriculturists and stock-raisers of the younger generation in Clayton county, his association with farming having been continuous since the time when he began to lend his boyish assistance in the work of his father's old homestead. He was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 23rd of October, 1882, and is a son of John and Mary (Vonbruel) Eglseider, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter at Guttenberg, Clayton county, her parents having been early pioneer settlers of this county. John Eglseider, Sr., came with his parents to the United States about the year 1855, and after remaining for a short period in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, the family came to Clayton county and established residence in the village of Garnavillo. Later John Eglseider purchased and improved a farm in Jefferson township, and for many years he continued as one of the active and successful exponents of farm enterprise in this county. He and his wife now reside in an attractive home near Garnavillo, and he is now living virtually retired. He gives his support to the cause of the Democratic party and he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. Of their children the eldest is Mary, who is the wife of Henry Mormann, of Jefferson

township; Frank remains at the parental home; Annie is the wife of Frank Walz, of Clayton township; the subject of this review was the next in order of birth; William is a farmer of Clayton township; Catherine is the wife of Henry Schmelzer, of Garnavillo township; and Henry remains with his parents. John Eglseider, Jr., whose name introduces this article, was afforded in his youth the advantages of the excellent village schools of Guttenberg, and he continued to assist in the activities of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-eight years, when he purchased his present attractive and well ordered farmstead, where he has since given his close and effective attention to diversified agriculture and to the raising of good grades of live stock, including the Hereford type of cattle. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he and his wife are active communicants of the Catholic church. On the 22d of February, 1911, Mr. Eglseider wedded Miss Elizabeth Buechel, who likewise was born and reared in Guttenberg, Iowa, where her parents, Henry and Sophie Buechel, still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Eglseider have three children—Cyril, Floyd, and Walter.

**E. Charles Ehrhardt.**—Nearly sixty years ago the parents of this well known and representative citizen of Boardman township numbered themselves among the pioneers of Clayton county, and the family name has been specially prominent and influential in connection with the development and progress of agricultural industry in the county, the while its representatives have invariably stood exponent of loyal and liberal citizenship. He whose name initiates this review is the owner of one of the fine landed estates of the county in which he has maintained his residence from infancy to the present time, and his well improved farm, comprising two hundred and seventeen acres, is most eligibly situated about two miles west of Elkader, the judicial center of the county, and in sections 21 and 22, Boardman township, with service on rural mail route No. 2 from the county seat. Mr. Ehrhardt became the owner of this valuable farm in 1880 and during the long intervening years he has shown great circumspection and enterprise in carrying forward successful operations as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of the county and with inviolable place in popular confidence and good will. He is serving with characteristic efficiency and loyalty in the office of township trustee and as a valued member of the executive committee on community insurance, besides which he has shown equal diligence and public spirit as incumbent of minor township offices in past years. He is one of the influential men of his township, is a Democrat in his political adherency, is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Union, and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. Mr. Ehrhardt was born at Elmira, Chemung county, New York, on the 26th of February, 1857, and is a son of John and Henrietta (Kaiser) Ehrhardt, who came to Clayton county, Iowa, in the year following that of his birth, and who here passed the residue of their earnest and useful lives. John Ehrhardt was a native of Germany, as was also his wife, and he came



to the United States in the early '50s. After his marriage, which was solemnized in the State of New York, he there continued his residence until 1858, when he came with his family to Clayton county, Iowa, and became a pioneer farmer in Boardman township, where he reclaimed and improved a good farm and became a substantial and honored citizen who was known for sterling integrity and for his industry and enterprise as a farmer. He was about 84 years of age at the time of his death and his wife passed away when 55 years of age, the names of both meriting enduring place on the roll of the worthy pioneers of this county. Both were zealous communicants of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which they carefully reared their children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest; Annie, the second child, died in childhood; Lena is the wife of L. Maville, a prosperous farmer of Cox Creek township; John is a resident of Elkader; Mary is the wife of J. J. Kuehl, of Boardman township, and her twin sister died in infancy; and George lives at Elkader. E. Charles Ehrhardt early began to assist in the work of his father's farm and his educational advantages in his youth were those afforded in the pioneer schools of Boardman township, where he has continued his active allegiance to the great basic industry of agriculture during the long intervening years and where he has achieved success of unequivocal order, a preceding paragraph having indicated the scope and importance of his operations as a farmer and stock-raiser. On the 5th of June, 1884, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Ehrhardt to Miss Elizabeth Brockman, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Christ and Maria (Meyer) Brockman, both natives of Germany. Her father immigrated to the United States in 1852 and became a pioneer settler in Clayton county, his old homestead, in Farmersburg township, having continued as his place of residence to the present time and his devoted wife having passed to the life eternal on the 8th of March, 1908. She lived for three years in Ohio before coming to Clayton county. Of their children Mrs. Ehrhardt is the eldest; Annie is the wife of Edward Reardon, of Elkader; August, George and Bertha are deceased; and Frederick, Sarah and Christ remain at the paternal home, in Farmersburg township. Mr. and Mrs. Ehrhardt became the parents of six children, concerning whom brief record is given in conclusion of this review: George C., a merchant at Communia, Volga township; Carl R. is associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm; Frederick J. is a successful and popular teacher in public schools; Edward H. remains at the parental home; the fifth child, a daughter, died in infancy; and the youngest member of the home circle is Elmer.

**Walter L. Eichendorf** is consistently to be designated as one of the representative younger members of the bar of Clayton county, and is engaged in the successful practice of his profession at McGregor. His personality and professional ability have given him secure place in popular confidence and esteem and his law business shows a constantly cumulative tendency, the while it has involved his appearance in connection with important litigated causes in



which he has won decisive victories and proved himself a resourceful trial lawyer. He has deep appreciation of the dignity and importance of his chosen vocation and its unwritten ethical code finds in him a close observer. In the city of Clinton, judicial center of the Iowa county of the same name, Mr. Eichendorf was born on the 26th of July, 1889, and he is a son of John and Amelia A. (Kranert) Eichendorf, who still maintain their residence at McGregor, and of whose three children the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth. Harry G., the elder son, resides at McGregor and is a shoe man by vocation; and Lillian is the wife of George F. Hamilton, of Hampton, Franklin county, this state. John Eichendorf was born and reared in Germany, where he learned the trade of tailor, and in the early '80s he immigrated to the United States and engaged in the work of his trade in the city of Clinton, Iowa. Six years later he came with his family to Clayton county and established his home in the thriving village of McGregor, where he has since been engaged in successful business as a merchant tailor, his political support being given to the Republican party and both he and his wife holding membership in the Christian Science church. Walter L. Eichendorf was a child at the time of the family removal to Clayton county and at McGregor he was reared to adult age. He continued his studies in the public schools until he had completed the curriculum of the McGregor high school, and within a short time after his graduation he followed the line of his ambitious purpose and was matriculated in the law department of the University of Iowa, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1912, his admission to the bar of his native state having been virtually simultaneous with his reception of the degree of Bachelor of Laws. His professional novitiate was served at Lake Mills, Winnebago county, where for eighteen months he was junior member of the law firm of Kingland & Eichendorf and where his initial success justified fully his choice of vocation. At the expiration of the period noted he returned to McGregor, where he has developed a substantial and representative law business that is constantly expanding in scope and importance and where he stands forth as a loyal and public-spirited citizen. He is a well fortified advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party and is affiliated with Bezer Lodge, No. 135, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, of which he is serving as secretary in 1916. His name is still enrolled on the roster of eligible young bachelors in his native state, and he remains at the parental home. He is popular in professional, business and social circles and is an active member of the Clayton County Bar Association.

**Henry Eiffert** is the owner of a valuable landed estate of two hundred acres, eligibly situated in Giard township and near the little village of Froelich, and by his energy, stability and good judgment he has proved himself one of the essentially representative agriculturists and stock-growers of his native county. As a farmer and as a public-spirited citizen he has directed his course with that discriminating sense of stewardship that betokens sterling character and that begets unqualified popular approbation, the while definite

success and prosperity have come as a natural sequel. Mr. Eiffert is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of this county and here was born in Monona township on the 10th of April, 1859, a son of Hanscourt and Elizabeth (Hoch) Eiffert, both of whom were born in Hessen, Germany. Within a comparatively short time after his immigration to the United States Hanscourt Eiffert came to Iowa and established his residence in Clayton county. He was a young man at the time and in the initial stage of his progress toward the goal of independence he was employed on the farm of a Mr. Schneider, in Monona township. Industrious and frugal, his ambitious purpose caused him carefully to conserve his earnings until he realized the prime object of this ambition and was enabled to purchase a farm of his own, in Monona township. He developed and improved this land into one of the productive and valuable farms of that township and there continued his successful activities as an agriculturist until his death, which occurred February 12, 1887, when he was in the prime of his useful manhood. His venerable widow now resides in the village of Monona, both having early become members of the religious organization known as the Evangelical association, and he, as a loyal citizen of his adopted country, having allied himself staunchly with the Republican party. Of the two children the subject of this review is the elder, and the younger son, Emil, is deceased. Henry Eiffert was reared to manhood on the old homestead farm which was the place of his nativity and in the meanwhile he did not neglect to avail himself fully of the advantages afforded in the local schools. He was about twenty-eight years of age at the time of his father's death and the management of the home farm then devolved upon him, though he profited much by the wise counsel and earnest co-operation of his widowed mother. When thirty-three years of age he purchased his mother's interest in the farm, to the operation of which he thereafter devoted himself for some years, at the expiration of which he sold the property and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his present farm, to the area of which he later added by the purchase of a contiguous tract of forty acres, so that his fine domain now has a total of two hundred acres of the fertile and valuable land of his native county. He has made many admirable improvements on his farm, including the erection of good buildings, and has made it give forth the unmistakable evidences of thrift and prosperity. He is discriminating and progressive as an exponent of diversified agriculture, and has proved specially successful also in the raising of high-grade live stock, his farm having high reputation for its full-blooded black Polled Angus cattle. Mr. Eiffert has at all times done his part in the furtherance of those things which have tended to advance the social and material prosperity of the community, is aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Republican party and has been signally immune from office-seeking proclivities, the only public office which he has consented to assume being that of school director, of which he was the incumbent several years. Both he and his wife are earnest members of the Evangelical church, or Association, at Froelich, and he has served as a

member of its board of trustees. The marriage of Mr. Eiffert to Miss Elizabeth Ulrich was solemnized June 3, 1892, and they have three children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here given: Blanche, June 7, 1893; Esther, March 6, 1895; and Roy, July 17, 1898. Mrs. Eiffert was born in Giard township, this county, on the 11th of February, 1862, and is a daughter of John and Catherine (Wagner) Ulrich, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in the State of Indiana. John Ulrich was a boy at the time of accompanying his parents on their immigration to America. Upon coming to Clayton county he located in the vicinity of the village of Watson, and later he purchased a farm in Monona township. After selling this property he bought a farm in Giard township, and there he continued his residence, as one of the sterling citizens and successful farmers of the county, until his death, which occurred May 22, 1905, his widow, who was born March 17, 1835, being now one of the venerable and loved pioneer women of Clayton county. Of their children the eldest is John, who is a resident of Clarion, Wright county; George maintains his home at Garner, Hancock county; James is a resident of Cedar Falls, Blackhawk county; Mrs. Eiffert was the fourth child and she is now the only representative of the immediate family in Clayton county; and Helen died in childhood.

**Ember Embretson** is a representative of the fine Scandinavian element of citizenship that has contributed effectively to the material and civic development and progress of Clayton county and though he is able to claim Norway as the place of his nativity he has passed virtually his entire life thus far in Clayton county, where he is a scion of an honored pioneer family and where he is a prominent exponent of the fundamental industry of agriculture, his finely improved homestead being eligibly situated in Wagner township, a short distance south of the village of St. Olaf, though his greater prestige as an agriculturist lies in his ownership of valuable landed estates in both Minnesota and South Dakota. He has been for many years one of the well known and influential citizens of Clayton county and for a period of twenty years he was successfully engaged in the general merchandise business at St. Olaf, where also he served as postmaster. As a sterling and honored citizen and influential man of affairs he well merits recognition in this publication. Mr. Embertson was born in Norway, on the 27th of July, 1849, and in the following year his parents, Ole and Goso (Larson) Embertson came to America. They were numbered among the pioneer settlers in Wagner township, Clayton county, Iowa, where the father passed the remainder of his life as an energetic and substantial farmer, his wife likewise having died on the old homestead place, and both having been earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. Of their children the subject of this sketch is the eldest; Lars is now a resident of the State of Montana; Annie is deceased; Johanna is the wife of W. Louis Larson and they reside in Minnesota; Knute maintains his home at St. Olaf; Gunnell became the wife of Jacob Larson and is now deceased; Henry is a prosperous farmer in Wagner township; Oscar is a resident of Riceville,



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ERNEST ENDERES AND WIFE

Mitchell county; and Ludwich is a representative farmer of Wagner township, Clayton county. Reared under the conditions and influences which marked the pioneer epoch in the history of Clayton county, Ember Embertson attended the local schools when opportunity afforded and in the meanwhile he gained invaluable experience in connection with the work of the home farm, with the operation of which he continued to be associated until he had attained to the age of twenty-two years. He then opened a modest general store at St. Olaf, and from a small inception he built up a large and prosperous business, to which he continued to devote his attention for a period of about twenty years, when he retired from this line of enterprise, after having served during the greater part of this interval as postmaster of the village. While thus engaged in business at St. Olaf Mr. Embretson purchased his present fine little farmstead of sixty-six acres, a short distance to the south of the village, and here he erected his commodious and attractive modern residence, which continues as the family home and which is a center of unostentatious hospitality and good cheer. In South Dakota Mr. Embretson is the owner of a valuable estate of seven hundred acres, and in the State of Minnesota he has four hundred and eighty acres, both of these properties receiving on his part a general supervision. He is a stalwart in the camp of the Republican party and has been influential in its local councils and campaign activities. He served four terms as trustee of Wagner township and has been notably liberal and progressive as a citizen. Mr. Embretson is one of the substantial men of Clayton county and is a stockholder and director of the St. Olaf Savings Bank. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at St. Olaf. As a young man Mr. Embretson wedded Miss Betsy Larson, of Reid township, and she is survived by four children—Geneva, Parina, Adelia, and Ella. For his second wife Mr. Embretson wedded Miss Nellie Hulgerson, who was born and reared in this county, and they have two children—Phelman and Edwin, who remain members of the home circle.

**Ernst Enderes** holds a place of prominence as one of the representative business men of his native county, as he is president of the Enderes Manufacturing Company, which is engaged in the manufacturing of various types of tools at Littleport. The company has a well equipped plant and certain of the high-grade tools manufactured were invented and patented by the president of the corporation, who has long been known as a man of fine mechanical ability. Mr. Enderes was born on the old homestead farm of his father, near Communia, this county, and the date of his nativity was March 9, 1861. He is a son of John and Barbara (Prupst) Enderes, both natives of Germany and both honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of their death. John Enderes was one of the earliest settlers in the community about Communia, this county, where he established his home about the year 1849 and where he reclaimed and improved a good farm. He was a nail-smith by trade and prior to coming to Clayton county he had followed the work of his trade. Of the three children the eldest is



William, who is a resident of Littleport; and Ernst and Emiline were twins, the latter being now deceased. Ernst Enderes was reared under the invigorating discipline of the farm and made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality and period. In his youth he learned the trade of blacksmith, and at the age of twenty years he left the parental home and engaged in the work of his trade in Postville, Allamakee county. There he remained about four years, and he then, in 1885, established his home at Littleport, where for the ensuing twenty-six years he vigorously and successfully applied himself to the work of his trade, as the owner of a blacksmith shop. In 1907 he became the founder of the prosperous manufacturing enterprise of which he is now the executive head, and his associates as stockholders and directors of the company are Ernst and John W. Enderes, Christ C. Pust, Elmer L. Gifford, and George C. Ruegnitz, Jr. In politics Mr. Enderes gives his allegiance to no definite party but supports the men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment. He is affiliated with the local organizations of the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. On the 18th of September, 1883, Mr. Enderes wedded Miss Louisa Hupp, who was born in Allamakee county, this state, and they have three children: John is associated with the manufacturing company of which his father is president; Rose is the wife of George Ruegnitz, of Volga township; and Elsie is the wife of Seymour Lalleger, of Littleport.

**John Engelhardt** is another of the native sons of Clayton county who stands effectively forward as an able and successful representative of agricultural and live-stock industry in this favored section of the Hawkeye State, and through his own energy and well ordered endeavors he has become the owner of one of the well improved and valuable landed estates of his native county, the same comprising two hundred and eighty acres and being situated in sections 23 and 26, Wagner township, and about three-fourths of a mile distant from the village of St. Olaf, which is his postoffice address. Mr. Engelhardt was born in Wagner township, this county, on the 19th of May, 1876, and is a son of Rudolph and Mary (Schmidt) Engelhardt, both of whom were born in Germany. Rudolph Engelhardt was twenty years of age at the time when he numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county, and here he devoted the remainder of his life to the great basic industry of agriculture, in connection with which he gained distinctive independence and substantial prosperity. He was one of the well known and highly esteemed citizens of this county at the time of his death, which occurred on the 9th of August, 1893, and his widow now maintains her home at Farmersburg, this county. Of the eleven children George and Louis are prosperous farmers of Monona township; John, of this review, was the third in order of birth; Augusta is the wife of William Jones, of Lime Spring, Howard county; Emma is the wife of Jefferson Jones, of Gunder, Clayton county; Martha is the wife of Henry Boler, of Cresco, Howard county; Amelia is the wife of Frederick G. Wilkie, of Reid township, Clayton county; Arthur resides at Bonair, Howard county, and Robert at Farmers-

burg, Clayton county; Alma is the wife of Edward Olke, of Lee, South Dakota; and the eleventh child, a girl, died in infancy. John Englehardt is indebted to the public schools of Clayton county for his early educational discipline and he was a lad of sixteen years at the time of his father's death. He had in the meanwhile gained his due quota of experience in connection with the work of the home farm and after the death of his father he entered the employ of his oldest brother, as an assistant in the work and management of the latter's farm. In 1900 he gave patent evidence of his ambition and self-reliance by purchasing a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Wagner township, and with increasing prosperity he has made judicious investment in other valuable land in this township until he now has a fine domain of two hundred and eighty acres, improved with good buildings and devoted to diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of live stock. Mr. Englehardt is most loyal to his native county and has here found ample opportunity for the achieving of worthy success in connection with the great fundamental industry under whose influence he was reared. He is liberal and progressive in his civic attitude, is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party and has been called upon to serve in minor township offices. He is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World and both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. In 1899 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Englehardt to Miss Keka Draves, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county, and of their five children two died in infancy. The surviving children are: Albin, age 9; Harvey, age 7; Philmon, the baby, one year of age.

**Charles J. Engler.**—One of the representative mercantile establishments of the thriving village of Garnavillo is that owned and conducted by Mr. Engler, who here has a specially substantial and well equipped store in which he handles all kinds of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, ranges, and plumbing, lighting and heating supplies and plants. He is at all times prepared to furnish estimates for the installation of plumbing, lighting and heating equipment, and the high reputation for his establishment constitutes its best commercial asset, for its service is of the best type in all departments and fair and honorable dealing is the rule from which no deviation is permitted. Mr. Engler has gained a secure place as one of the progressive business men of his native county and is specially worthy of recognition in this publication. Charles J. Engler was born at Monona, this county, on the 31st of March, 1877, and is a son of John and Mary (Light) Engler, the former a native of Germany and the latter of the State of Kentucky. John Engler established his home in Clayton county, was a harnessmaker by trade but after coming to this county he became a successful farmer of Clayton township, where his death occurred on the 17th of December, 1887, his widow being still a resident of that township and being a devout communicant of the Catholic church, as was also her husband. Of the children the first-born was Rose, who died in young girlhood; Louis is a prosperous farmer of this county; Emma is the wife of Robert Anderson and they maintain their home

in the city of Dubuque, Iowa; Lena is the wife of Bernard Tonner, of Clayton township; Catherine and William remain at the old homestead with their mother; Charles J., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Albert is still with his mother on the home farm. Charles J. Engler gained his early experience of practical nature in connection with the work of the home farm and was about ten years of age at the time of his father's death. He made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality and at the age of twenty-two years he left the farm to enter upon an apprenticeship to the tinner's trade, in a hardware establishment at Elkader, the judicial center of his native county. Within two years he had so applied himself as to become a skilled workman at his trade, and his first work as a journeyman was at Neola, Pottawattamie county, where he remained two years. For the ensuing three years he was engaged in the work of his trade at Stuart, Guthrie county, and he then went to Kalispell, Montana, where he remained about one year. Upon his return to Clayton county he resumed his association with the work and management of the old homestead farm, but after a lapse of eighteen months he went to the city of Chicago, where he remained two years and broadened his knowledge of the hardware business as well as of the work of his trade. He next returned to his native county and assumed a clerical position in the general merchandise establishment of William L. Kords, in the village of Clayton. About a year later he removed to Ossian, Winneshiek county, where he worked at his trade for a brief interval. In 1909 he established his home at Garnavillo, where he has since risen to a prominent place in connection with the business and civic activities of the village. For three years he was employed in the hardware establishment of the firm of Kregel & Luehsen, and he then purchased the interest of the senior member of the firm. Thereafter the enterprise was continued under the firm name of Luehsen & Engler until the death of Mr. Luehsen, since which time Mr. Engler has individually owned and conducted the flourishing enterprise, his establishment controlling a substantial trade that extends throughout the ample territory normally tributary to Garnavillo. Mr. Engler is liberal and public-spirited as a citizen and while he has had no ambition for political preferment he has been found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, his religious faith being that of the Catholic church, of which he is a communicant. He still permits his name to remain engrossed on the roll of eligible bachelors in his native county, and here his circle of friends is virtually coincident with that of his acquaintances.

**Henry Erickson** has been a resident of Iowa from the time of his birth and while he is of the valiant type of loyal and progressive American citizenship he has not failed to mark his appreciation of the traditions and his history of the land of his ancestors and exemplifies in his personality the sterling integrity and the constructive energy that have made the Scandinavian element of citizenship so influential and valued a factor in connection with the social and industrial development of the greater western portion of our



national domain. He takes just pride in being a scion of one of the honored pioneer families of Clayton county and here he is one of the successful farmers and substantial and honored citizens of Marion township, liberal and loyal as a citizen and influential in public affairs of a local order. He was born in Marion township, on the 14th of December, 1864, and is a son of Peter and Barbara Erickson, both natives of Norway. Peter Erickson was reared and educated in his native land and was a young man when, in 1854, he immigrated to America and established his residence in the State of Wisconsin. There he remained until 1859, when he came with his family to Clayton county and established a home on one of the pioneer farms of Marion township. Substantial success attended his indefatigable labors as an agriculturist and stock-grower and he still continues his association with farm industry, being now one of the sterling pioneer citizens of Grand Meadow township. He is a Republican in politics and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Of their seven children the first, Erick, died young; Louis is a resident of the State of Montana and the subject of this sketch was the third child; Samuel and Benjamin are successful farmers in Grand Meadow township; Albert is deceased; and Emma remains at the parental home. Henry Erickson did not fail to profit duly by the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county and he thereafter continued his association with the work and management of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-four years. He then went to Lyon county, this state, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and where he continued his residence for the ensuing four years. He then sold the property and returned to Clayton county, where he purchased his present excellent farm, on section 12, Marion township, the place comprising one hundred and forty-seven acres of most fertile land and the improvements on the same being of modern order. In connection with diversified agriculture Mr. Erickson gives special attention to the raising of Poland-China and Chester White swine, and in all of his activities he has shown the spirit of thrift and progressiveness. He has given his ready support to measures and enterprises projected for the general good of the community and has been called upon to service in local offices of public trust. He held the office of township trustee for seven years and that of township clerk for eight years, besides which he has served as school director of his district. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he and his family hold membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church. His home receives its mail service on rural route No. 1 from the village of Postville. On the 18th of September, 1889, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Erickson to Miss Josephine Nelson, who was born April 26, 1870, in Marion township, this county, and concerning their children the following brief data are given in conclusion of this review: Nora in 1915 was a student in one of the leading conservatories of the city of Chicago, where she is studying dramatic art and preparing herself for a stage career, her talent in this line being pronounced exceptional;

Emily is the wife of Louis Amendson, of Grand Meadow township; Gertrude is the wife of Henry Larson, of that township; and the five children who remain members of the home circle are Mabel, Agnes, Nettie, Peter and Harriet.

**John Everall.**—There is no need for puzzling or indirection in determining the sterling value of the life services of this venerable and honored pioneer citizen of Clayton county, for he has marked the passing years with earnest and effective endeavor, has shown a high sense of personal stewardship and has held the unequivocal confidence and esteem of those whom his benignant influence has touched in the varied relations of his long and useful career. Mr. Everall was born in Shropshire, England, on the 20th of April, 1839, and in that same section of the "right little isle" were born and reared his parents, Richard and Elizabeth (Liversage) Everall, folk of superior mentality and fine attributes of character. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this review was one of the pioneer clergymen of the Congregational church in England, and it is worthy of note that all of his children, seven in number, were residents of the United States at the time of their death. In 1851 Richard Everall came with his family to Clayton county, Iowa, and became one of the pioneer farmers in Farmersburg township, where his well directed labors brought to him a generous measure of prosperity, as gauged by the standards of the locality and period. Both he and his wife passed the closing years of their life in the village of Farmersburg and both were venerable in years at the time of their death. They were zealous members of the Congregational church, instant in human sympathy and kindness and in good deeds. They became the parents of three children, and the only survivor is the honored citizen to whom this sketch is dedicated, he being the eldest of the number; Elizabeth was a resident of Farmersburg at the time of her death; and Mrs. Martha Ann (Everall) Sutton died at Bloomington, Wisconsin. John Everall gained his rudimentary education in his native land and supplemented this by attending the pioneer schools of Clayton county, as well as by individual application which, with his naturally studious tendencies, effectively broadened his intellectual horizon. In Clayton county he gained in his youth a close fellowship with the work of the pioneer farm of his father, and during many years of his active career he continued his close allegiance to the basic industry of agriculture, through the medium of which he gained substantial success. He has long been one of the prominent and influential citizens of Clayton county and special distinction is his for the valiant service which he rendered as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war. From 1858 to 1862 he was a successful and popular teacher in the schools of this county, and he abandoned his pedagogic services only to respond to the call of higher duty, for in August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he proceeded to the front and took part in the various engagements that marked the record of this gallant Iowa regiment. He lived up to the full tension of the great conflict between the states of the North and the South, was

wounded in action in July, 1864, but was not long incapacitated for service, as he continued with his regiment until the close of the war, rose from the rank of first sergeant to that of first lieutenant of his company, and received his honorable discharge in June, 1865. In later years he has vitalized the more gracious memories and associations of his military career by his appreciative affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. After the war Mr. Everall resumed his association with farming in Farmersburg township, and his ability and unqualified popularity have brought to him many official preferments in the public service. He has filled nearly all township offices, and for a period of four years he was county superintendent of schools. He was for six years the incumbent of the office of county auditor, and for eight years he represented Clayton county in the upper house of the Iowa Legislature. In every public office to which he has been called he has proved a faithful, loyal and efficient incumbent, and he has shown himself well fortified in his opinions concerning matters of economic and governmental polity. He is now living virtually retired in his attractive home at Farmersburg, and finds that his lines are cast in pleasant places, for he is surrounded by a host of friends who are tried and true, and is revered alike by old and young. In a basic way he has ever given stalwart allegiance to the Democratic party, but in local affairs he has not been constrained by strict partisan lines, as he has given his support to men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment. Mr. Everall has been long and appreciatively affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, and for eight or nine years he held the office of master of the lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons at Farmersburg. In this village, on the 25th of October, 1865, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Everall, then a youthful veteran of the Civil war, to Miss Vallonia Renshaw, who was born at Brownsville, Pennsylvania, on the 9th of April, 1841. Of the seven children of this union, five are living. Richard, the firstborn, died in boyhood; Martha remains with her parents; John is successfully established in the practice of law in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota; Dr. George L. became a representative physician and surgeon in the city of Clinton, Iowa, but was at the old home in Farmersburg at the time of his death; Bruce B., M. D., is engaged in the practice of his profession at Monona, Clayton county; Dr. Benjamin C. was engaged in the practice of medicine in the city of Waterloo, this state, until the border troubles with Mexico, in the summer of 1916, led to his going to Texas as captain and surgeon of the hospital corps of the First Iowa Volunteer Infantry, in which capacity he is serving at the time of this writing; Bessie E., the youngest of the children, is now an efficient and popular teacher in the public schools of Lake City, Minnesota. Senator Everall was one of the leaders of his party while in the Iowa Senate and was known for his quiet, but forceful support of wise measures for the benefit of the people. He still takes an active interest in the bank at Farmersburg and is known and loved throughout the county.

**Henry Farmer.**—Through his vigorous and successful operations in connection with agriculture and live stock industry Mr.



Farmer has given consistent justification to the patronymic which he bears, as he is the owner of one of the finely improved farms of Lodomillo township, besides which he has secure place in popular esteem in the county which became his home when he was an infant. Mr. Farmer, who was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, on the 8th of June, 1854, is a son of John and Mary Ann (Barr) Farmer, both of whom were born and reared in the north of Ireland. The parents received their education in their native land and about 1845 came to the United States, where their marriage was solemnized and they established their residence at Wheeling, West Virginia. In 1856 they came to Clayton county, Iowa, and the father became a pioneer farmer in Lodomillo township, where he and his wife passed the residue of their lives, he having followed in earlier years the trade of a blacksmith. Both were of the Protestant faith in religion, and in the same they reared their children. Henry, the subject of this review, is the elder and only survivor, his brother, John, Jr., having died when forty-three years of age. Henry Farmer gained his early education in the pioneer schools of Clayton county, and he continued his active association with the work of the home farm until his marriage. On the 20th of January, 1876, Mr. Henry Farmer wedded Miss Margaret O'Brien, who was born in Rochester, New York, and who is a daughter of James and Anna (Kalnan) O'Brien, the father being a native of Ireland, while the wife Anna was of French origin. James O'Brien was a soldier of the Union in the Civil war, serving as a member of the Michigan cavalry, their home at that time being at Mackinac Island. He died while in active service at Memphis, Tennessee. His widow, who survived him by many years, spent the remainder of her life with her three children at Mackinac Island and Chicago. The two surviving of this family being Mrs. Farmer, who is the younger, and her sister Rebecca, wife of O. E. Huene of Manchester, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Farmer became the parents of four children: Nellie Irene, the eldest, in 1898 became the wife of C. J. Rulon, who is a merchant of Wood, Iowa, and a son of K. Rulon of Clayton county. To them was born one son, Burdette, in 1904. James Willard, who resides upon and manages his father's farm in Delaware county, in 1904 married Nettie Hockaday, daughter of William Hockaday of Manchester, Iowa. In 1906 and 1913 their two sons were born, Wayne James and Henry Bertram respectively. Floy Lucille, who in 1906 became the wife of Dr. A. L. Breed of Rock Elm, Wisconsin, died at her home in Wisconsin at the age of twenty-six years. And Zelda Vivian, who has since 1913 been a teacher in the Elkader schools. After Mr. Farmer's marriage he lived on a part of his father's farm in Clayton county until 1879, when he, with his family, moved to Kansas, where he purchased a one hundred and sixty acre farm. Becoming tired of the West, they returned in 1882, then making their home in Delaware county. About 1890 he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Delaware county. On this place, which he still owns, he continued his operations as an enterprising agriculturist and stock raiser for a period of about fifteen years, at the expiration of which time he returned to the old

homestead in Clayton county which he had inherited from his parents and which is situated in Section 28, Lodomillo township. He has since continued as one of the representative farmers of this part of Clayton county and gives also a general supervision to his farm in Delaware county, a property that is now in the active charge of his only son. He is a Republican in his political proclivities and is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias.

**Otto Fascher** is another of the sterling sons of the German Fatherland who has found in our great American republic the opportunities through which he has achieved definite independence and prosperity, and Clayton county has been the stage of his activities during the entire period of his residence in the United States. His industry and self-reliance have been on a parity with his ambition and integrity of purpose, and through his own ability and well ordered endeavors he has won secure place as one of the substantial and popular exponents of agricultural industry in Clayton county. He is a loyal and progressive citizen, and that his ability has not lacked popular appreciation is evidenced by the fact that he is serving as trustee of Read township, of which position he has been the efficient incumbent since 1914. Mr. Fascher was born in Klein Küsten, Germany, on the 9th of August, 1872, and is one of the six surviving children of Carl and Dorothea (Welle) Fascher, the former of whom passed his entire life in that section of the German Empire and the latter of whom came to the United States in 1895, the remainder of her life having been spent in Clayton county, Iowa, where she died in the spring of 1916, a devout communicant of the Lutheran church, as was also her husband. Otto Fascher was reared and educated in his native land and was twenty-four years of age when, in 1896, he came to America and established his home in Clayton county. Here he was employed at farm work for a few years, and his further progress toward the goal of independence was made by his operations on a rented farm, where he continued his energetic labors, when he purchased sixty acres of excellent land in Section 5, Read township, where he has proved himself a resourceful and energetic farmer and stock-grower and gained prestige as one of the able and valued exponents of these basic lines of industry in Clayton county. He has improved his farm with good buildings and in its various operations he avails himself of scientific methods and the most approved modern facilities in the way of implements and machinery. From the time of becoming a naturalized citizen of the land of his adoption he had given his support to the cause of the Democratic party, and in addition to serving as township trustee, as previously noted, he is a school director of his district. He and his wife are communicants and earnest supporters of the Lutheran church at St. Olaf, from which village his farm receives service on rural mail route No. 2. On the 21st of September, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Fascher to Miss Augusta Kuhn, who likewise was born in Germany and who came with her parents, William and Fredericka Kuhn, to America in 1894, in which year the family home was established in Clayton county. Here Mr. Kuhn died in 1910, and here his widow still resides. Of

the six children of Mr. and Mrs. Fascher the first two died in infancy; Lucy died at the age of three months and Hilda at the age of five months. The two surviving children are Arno, born December 25, 1903, and Leona, born August 28, 1905.

**Rudolph W. Fett** holds place as one of the enterprising and representative merchants in the village of Luana and has been a resident of Iowa since his boyhood days, his parents having been pioneers of this State. He was born in the Prussian Province of Pommern, designated in English as Pomerania, and the date of his nativity was April 6, 1866. In the same province were born and reared his parents, Frederick and Henriette (Schrader) Fett, and there they continued their residence until 1875, when they immigrated to America and soon afterward established the family home in Allamakee county, Iowa. There Frederick Fett reclaimed and developed a fine farm and he continued to be actively identified with agricultural pursuits in that county for many years. He and his wife are now venerable and honored pioneer citizens of Allamakee county, where he is living retired, in the enjoyment of the gracious rewards of former years of earnest and well directed endeavor. Their eldest child, Charles, continues to uphold the prestige of the family name in connection with agricultural industry in Allamakee county; Augusta is the wife of August Duball, of that county; Fred still remains a representative of agricultural interests in the same county; and the subject of this review is the youngest of the children. Rudolph W. Fett was a lad of about seventeen years at the time of the family immigration to the United States, and thus he had received in his native land his rudimentary education, which was supplemented by the discipline which he gained in the schools of Allamakee county, Iowa. He assisted in the work of the home farm and later found employment on other farms in Allamakee county. In 1894 he came to Clayton county and founded a general merchandise business at Watson, in which village he continued his operations in this line until the autumn of 1915, when he removed to Luana and purchased the general merchandise stock of Eleazer Schinholtz. He maintains his store at a high standard in the variety and completeness of its stock in all departments, and in the effective service given in meeting the demands of a substantial and appreciative patronage. He is one of the progressive and valued business men of this fine little city and has a wide circle of friends in Clayton county. Mr. Fett is a staunch Republican and within the period of his residence at Watson he served 15 years as postmaster of that village. Both he and his wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Luana. On the 5th of March, 1891, Mr. Fett wedded Miss Lena Krueger, who was born and reared in Allamakee county, and their five children all remain members of the gracious home circle, namely: Donald, Gladys, Murney, Carlisle, and Maicil.

**John Feulner** is another of the sterling sons of the great German Empire who came to America in the period of aspiring youth and who has found in Clayton county the opportunities through which he has worked his way to a position of definite independence



and prosperity. His finely improved farm of ninety acres lies adjacent to the corporate limits of the village of Strawberry Point, and is one of the valuable places of Cass township. Here he gives special attention to the raising of excellent grades of cattle and swine, and he has developed a prosperous dairy business in connection with the agricultural department of his farm enterprise. Further evidence of the success which he has won through his own ability and application is that given in his ownership of a half interest in a tract of two hundred and twenty acres of good land in the State of Oklahoma. Mr. Feulner was born in Germany, on the 21st of December, 1873, a member of a family of nine children, of whom seven are living—all save one of the number being now residents of the United States. He is a son of Wolfgang and Lena Feulner, who passed their entire lives in Germany. In the excellent schools of his native land Mr. Feulner gained his early education and in 1891, when a youth of seventeen years, he severed the home ties and set forth to seek his fortunes in America. He came with slender financial resources but with a full measure of energy and indomitable ambition, so that he was well fortified for the task which he set to himself, that of winning his way to the goal of prosperity. Soon after landing in the port of New York city Mr. Feulner came to Clayton county and obtained employment on a farm in Cass township. Advancement was his resolute purpose and he proved judicious in his use of the facilities at hand. Finally he rented a farm, and after there continuing his indefatigable activities for a period of three years he found himself so placed as to justify his purchase of a farm and he has owned various farms in this vicinity, always disposing of them, until he secured his present home, upon which he has made numerous improvements and in connection with which he has proved himself a resourceful and successful agriculturist and stock-grower. It is much to have come as a stranger in a strange land and to have won through personal effort such a large measure of success as stands to the credit of this popular and loyal citizen of Clayton county. His political proclivities are indicated by his staunch support of the cause of the Republican party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. On April 22, 1897, Mr. Feulner wedded Miss Frederica Opperman, who was born and reared in this county, and they have one daughter, Alice Mary, who is, in 1916, a student in the high school at Strawberry Point.

**Michael Feulner** was born and reared in Germany and soon after attaining to his legal majority he came to the United States and established his residence in Fayette county. Here he remained about five years and then came to Clayton county, where he has so directed his powers and energies as to achieve distinctive and worthy success as one of the substantial farmers of the county and to win for himself secure place in popular confidence and esteem. He arrived in Clayton county with his negative financial resources represented in an indebtedness of three dollars, and under these conditions he found employment as a farm hand at a stipend of twelve dollars a month. Much is signified in his advancement

from such status to the ownership of one of the finely improved and valuable farms of the county, and it is gratifying to pay in this review a tribute to his energy and resourceful ambition. Michael Feulner was born in Germany on the 29th of December, 1862, and is one of the seven surviving children of Wolfgang and Lena Feulner, who passed their entire lives in Germany, all but one of their children being now residents of the United States. Michael Feulner duly profited by the advantages afforded in the excellent schools of his native land, but his youthful ambition and self-reliance finally prompted him to seek in the United States better opportunities for the winning of independence and prosperity through individual effort. In 1884, when twenty-two years of age, he came to America and established his residence first in Fayette county and later in Clayton county, which has been the stage of his earnest endeavors during the long intervening years. For the first five years he was employed as a farm hand, and for the ensuing nine years he farmed on rented land. His energy and good judgment enabled him to make substantial advancement toward the goal of financial independence, and finally he effected the purchase of his present fine homestead farm, which comprises 140 acres and which is eligibly situated in Sections 16 and 21, Cass township. He has made many high-grade improvements on the farm, including the erection of modern buildings, the planting of a well-selected orchard and an attractive grove of shade trees about his pleasant home. Though he has proved specially successful in connection with his operations in diversified agriculture, Mr. Feulner has made a specialty of raising and feeding high-grade cattle and swine and has developed also a prosperous dairy business on his farm. He gives his support to the Republican party and while he has had no ambition for public office he has shown his civic loyalty by effective service in the office of township trustee. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Strawberry Point, from which village their home receives service on rural mail route No. 3. On February 21st, 1889, Mr. Feulner wedded Miss Mary Oppermann, who was born and reared in this county, where her parents settled in the pioneer days, upon their immigration to America from Germany. She is a daughter of Henry and Mary Oppermann, the former of whom is deceased and the latter of whom still resides in this country. Mr. and Mrs. Feulner have four children: Otto, Lydia, Esther and Alfred. Esther was graduated in the high school at Strawberry Point and the year 1916 finds her successfully engaged in teaching in the district schools of her native county.

**Joseph Fink.**—Fortunate is that man whom destiny leads into a sphere of endeavor in which he can effectively exercise his talents and energy and through the medium of which he can achieve a success that not only makes for his individual independence but also tends to conserve the communal welfare. Joseph Fink is one of the sterling German citizens of Clayton county, and in the land of his adoption he has found ample opportunity for the gaining of the worthy prosperity which was the mark set by his youthful ambition. He is one of the substantial representatives of the sturdy



yeomanry of this county, and as an agriculturist and stock-grower his success is best evidenced by the unmistakable thrift and prosperity that his fine farm betokens. He was born in Germany, on the 16th of February, 1858, and is a son of Joseph and Sophia (Thilk) Fink, with whom he came to America in 1884, when he was twenty-six years of age and after he had availed himself of the advantages of the excellent schools of his native land. The father passed the closing years of his life in Fayette county and his widow now resides in the home of the subject of this review, who accords to her in her venerable age the most loyal of filial care and solicitude. Prior to coming to America Mr. Fink had gained practical experience in the trade of mason, and at this trade he was engaged in work in Buchanan county, Iowa, until 1889, when he came to Clayton county and purchased the farm upon which he has since maintained his home and upon which he has made excellent improvements of a permanent order, including the erection of substantial farm buildings. His farm comprises one hundred and thirty-two acres and is eligibly situated in Section 29, Cass township, not far distant from the village of Strawberry Point, which is his postoffice address. In connection with his general agricultural operations Mr. Fink has developed a prosperous dairy department of farm enterprise and gives attention to the raising not only of good cattle but also of other farm live stock. Political activity and public office have had no lure to this energetic and successful farmer, who has won his prosperity entirely by personal ability and effort, and he shows his civic loyalty by supporting measures advanced for the general good of the community and by exercising his franchise as a representative of the Democratic party. Both he and his wife are active communicants of the Lutheran church. In 1888 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Fink to Miss Kume Schram, who was born in Germany and who was a young woman when she came to America, in 1884. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Fink, Emma and Edwin remain at the parental home; Bertha is the wife of Earl Cummings and they are now residents of the state of Minnesota; Ida is the wife of Alfred Mikota, of Cedar Rapids, this state; and Frederick and Minnie are the younger members of the home circle.

**William Finley** was a lad of sixteen years when he came from the fair old Emerald Isle to America and began to assist his uncle, the late John Finley, in the work of one of the productive farms of Highland township, Clayton county, and he has not only continued his residence in the township during the intervening years but has also gained secure status as one of the enterprising and substantial farmers and popular citizens of Highland township, where he is the owner of a large and well improved landed estate, a portion of which was formerly the old home of the uncle with whom he made his home during the early period of his residence in America. Mr. Finley was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, on the 11th day of July, 1874, and is a son of Michael and Maria (Fions) Finley, both of whom passed the closing years of their lives in their native land, Ireland, the father having been a farmer by vocation during vir-



tually his entire active career and both he and his wife having been devout communicants of the Catholic church. Of their children the eldest is Thomas, who still resides in Ireland; William, of this review, was the next in order of birth; John resides in the State of Montana; Michael is in South Africa; and John and James died in infancy. To the schools of his native land William Finley is indebted for the educational advantages that fell to his portion in his boyhood, and, as previously noted, he was sixteen years of age when he came to America and became a resident of the county in which he has since gained marked success and an established position as one of the progressive exponents of agricultural and livestock industry in this section of the state. During the first five years of his residence in this county Mr. Finley worked for his uncle on the latter's farm, in section 23, Highland township, and he then purchased one hundred and forty acres, to which he has since added until he now has a finely improved estate of two hundred and sixty acres, nearly all of which land is available for cultivation, the place being discriminately given over to diversified agriculture and to the breeding and raising of excellent grades of live stock, Mr. Finley is a director of the State Bank of Volga, is a Democrat in his political adherency, is affiliated with the Catholic Order of Foresters, and both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. On the 14th of July, 1896, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Finley to Miss Emma Roche, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of John and Hannah (Markham) Roche, both natives of Ireland. Mr. Roche was a youth when he came to America, and he resided first in the state of West Virginia. He was eighteen years old when he came to Clayton county, and here he has since maintained his home, he and his wife being well known and much esteemed citizens of Elkader, the county seat. Of their sixteen children nine are deceased, and Mrs. Finley is the fourth in order of birth of those surviving. The eldest is Michael, who is a farmer in Highland township; William is identified with farm enterprise in Boardman township; John is a resident of Omaha, Nebraska; Mary is a member of a Catholic sisterhood and is in a convent at Danbury; Kathrine is the widow of Patrick Orr and resides at Elkader; and Cecelia is in a convent at Mason City. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Finley the first two died at birth, and all of the others remain at the parental home, namely: Frances Dechantal, Mary Cecelia, Matthew, Florence Zita, and Edward John.

**Leonard L. Fisher** is a popular representative of the third generation of a family that was founded in Clayton county more than sixty years ago, and due record of the family history is given on other pages of this publication, in the sketch of the career of his father, Luman S. Fisher, so that further review is not demanded in the present connection. He whose name initiates this paragraph is making excellent record in connection with the operations of the fine old homestead farm on which he was born, in Lodomillo township, and he has become the owner of one hundred acres of the specially large landed estate accumulated by his father. He was born Feb. 2,

1882, and his early education was acquired in the public schools of his native county. As a youth he worked at the carpenter's trade for a period of about three years, but he has had the good judgment to refrain from severing his allegiance to the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing and has continued his active participation in the work and management of the large and valuable landed estate of his father, the homestead being known as the Good Luck Stock Farm and being given over specially to the breeding and raising of the best types of Poland-China swine and Holstein cattle. Leonard L. has not only been distinctively successful in the raising of these types of live stock but is known also as a fancier and successful grower of the barred Plymouth Rock poultry. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he is known as one of the progressive and public-spirited young men of his native county, where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. October 28, 1903, recorded the marriage of Mr. Fisher to Miss Fern Lulu Lathrop, who was born in the State of Wisconsin, as were also her parents, Cassius W. and Martha (Graves) Lathrop; her father now resides at Van Tassell, Wyoming, where he is engaged in ranching; his wife died in 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have four children, and their names and respective dates of birth are here designated; Claude Lathrop, March 4, 1904; Norman Fern, July 28, 1905; Clyde Harley, June 20, 1912; and Wilma Lou, May 26, 1914.

**Luman S. Fisher** was brought by his parents from the old Keystone state to Clayton county, Iowa, when two and one-half years of age and the family home was established in North McGregor, where they remained three and one-half years, then moved to Elkader and at the age of nine years he went to Pennsylvania with his mother, returning to Clayton county at the age of 21 years, and his early educational advantages were afforded in the schools of Iowa, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Kansas. He was born in Pennsylvania, on the 8th of April, 1855, a son of Thomas and Eliza (Sturtevant) Fisher, who likewise were natives of that historic old commonwealth. The parents set forth for Iowa when their son, Luman S., who was the second of their three children, was two and one-half years of age, the first-born having been a daughter, Hattie, who died when 50 years of age, and the youngest child, North, who died at the age of nine years, was the first white child born at North McGregor, Clayton county. Thomas Fisher turned his energies to the reclaiming of a farm on the frontier, and he aided nobly in the social and industrial development and progress of Clayton county, where he achieved worthy success and popular esteem. He was one of the most venerable pioneer citizens of the county at the time of his death, which occurred in May, 1912, his devoted wife, who had been a true helpmeet and a mother, having passed to eternal rest in July, 1907. As intimated in previous statements, Luman S. is the only one of their children now living, and he stands forth as one of the extensive landholders and representative agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county. He

remained at the parental home until he had attained to the age of seventeen years, when, in the spring of 1872, he went to Kansas, in which state he continued his association with agricultural pursuits for a period of about four years. Upon returning to Iowa he worked for a few months on a farm in Marion county and in the autumn of 1876 he returned to Clayton county, where he has since maintained his home and where his well ordered and constructive activities has brought to him a large measure of success. In 1887 Mr. Fisher purchased one hundred acres of land in Lodomillo township, and within a short time thereafter he added to the same an adjoining thirty-five acres. With increasing financial prosperity he showed his good judgment by making further judicious investments in Clayton county, land, and his finely improved estate now includes three hundred and twenty acres in Lodomillo township and he sold a tract of 320 acres in Fallon county, Montana, which he owned for some time. During the long intervening years that have marked his enterprising activities as a farmer Mr. Fisher has not only proved a careful and energetic exponent of diversified agriculture, but has also been notably successful as a grower of high-grade live stock. He has long given special attention to the breeding and raising of the best type of Poland-China swine, and he still gives his personal supervision to this interesting department of his farm enterprise, besides having prestige as being now one of the oldest active representatives of the Poland-China breeding in the entire State of Iowa. Mr. Fisher has at all times been ready to do his part in the promotion of enterprises and measures advanced for the general good of the community and he served six years as a member of the county board of supervisors, is now assessor of Lodomillo township, and has been called upon to serve in various minor offices of a local order. His political support is given to the cause of the Republican party and he is affiliated with the lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons at Edgewood, and also with the Modern Woodmen of America, his attractive rural home receiving mail service on rural route No. 1 from Edgewood. On December 30, 1880 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Fisher to Miss Sophia Hesner, who was born and reared in Lodomillo township, and in conclusion of this sketch is given brief record concerning their children: Leonard L. has the active management of the old homestead and concerning him individual mention is made on other pages of this work; Lyle likewise is a successful representative of agricultural industry in his home township; Frank is now a resident of Meridian, California, and is giving special attention to the raising of rice; Nellie is the wife of Nicholas Lang, of Mederville, this county; Mabel is the wife of Irving Hindal, of Lavina, Fergus county, Montana; Grace is the wife of Louis Tieden, of Cox Creek township, Clayton county; and Ruth and Frederick remain at the parental home.

E. C. Fitzpatrick, an enterprising business man of Elkader, Iowa, was born in that city, May 10, 1888, and is the son of Matthew and Elizabeth (Connell) Fitzpatrick, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter born in Clayton county, Iowa. Matthew Fitzpatrick



was brought by his parents to Clayton county when he was five years old, where he received his education, and upon reaching manhood took up his business interest in the same county, following the profession of law, and conducting an abstract business. He was very active in political circles, holding the offices of deputy treasurer and recorder for a term of six years. His wife died May 28, 1913. To their union were born eight children: Mary, the wife of T. J. Foley, of Salt Lake, City, Utah; Mathew J., who is a physician of Mason City, Iowa; Ella, living at home; Edward C., the subject of this sketch; Caroline, deceased; James F. and Katherine, also at home. E. C. Fitzpatrick received his education in the grade and high school of Elkader, and upon finishing his work in the class room entered business as a clerk with a mercantile firm, but on Oct. 25, 1912, bought for himself a clothing and gents' furnishing house, which business, by his energy and upright methods, he is fast developing into one of the best of its kind in his community. He led to the altar Olga S. Hasek, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and they have one son, Edward C., Jr., born November 3, 1914. Mr. Fitzpatrick is keenly interested in the welfare of the community and is now serving the public as a member of the city council of Elkader.

**Matthew Fitzpatrick** was an infant at the time when his parents came to Clayton county and settled on a pioneer farm in Cox Creek township. Here he passed the residue of his life and here it was given him to so assert his vital, loyal and noble personality as to achieve prominence and influence, a large place in community affairs and the inviolable confidence and esteem of his fellow men. Mr. Fitzpatrick was a representative member of the Clayton county bar, and in addition to gaining prestige and success in the legal profession he served with marked ability and credit in various public offices of local trust. He was one of the prominent and honored citizens of Elkader, the county seat, at the time of his death, which occurred on the 8th of March, 1916. This publication exercised a consistent function when it entered a tribute to the memory of this valued citizen. Matthew Fitzpatrick was born in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 11th of May, 1853, and thus he was barely 63 years of age at the time when he was summoned to the life eternal. He was a son of Patrick and Catherine Fitzpatrick, and was about two years old at the time when his parents came to Clayton county, in 1855, his father obtaining a tract of wild land in Cox Creek township and there reclaiming a farm. On this homestead the parents passed the remainder of their lives and both were earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Matthew Fitzpatrick early began to assist in the work of the home farm and after profiting by the advantages afforded in the rural schools of that pioneer period in the history of the county, he later made good use of the advantages afforded in the high school at Elkader. He became a successful and popular teacher in the schools of this county but his ambition led him into another field of professional endeavor. He studied law under the effective preceptorship of William A. Preston, at Elkader, and in 1883 he was admitted to practice. Mr. Fitzpatrick proved a resourceful trial lawyer and well fortified

counselor, and he developed a substantial and representative law practice, to which he gave his attention with characteristic zeal and earnestness. For a time he served as deputy county treasurer, under the administration of Charles E. Flowete, and in the autumn of 1884 he was elected to the office of county recorder, of which he continued the incumbent six years and in which he made a splendid record as an executive of the county government. Mr. Fitzpatrick was a man of strong convictions and broad intellectual ken. His political allegiance was given to the Democratic party and he was an effective advocate of its principles and policies. He was a zealous and devout communicant of the Catholic church, and he and his family held membership in the parish of St. Joseph's church at Elkader, in which his funeral services were held. He was actively affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. At the time of his death an Elkader paper, in an appreciative tribute, spoke as follows: "He will be missed and mourned not only by his kindred but also by neighbors and many friends who have known him intimately and admired him for his upright, clean, Christian life, and for the interest he manifested in public affairs, especially political and educational matters." On the 11th of April, 1882, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Fitzpatrick to Miss Elizabeth Connell, and of their seven children all survive them except one daughter, Caroline D., who died in 1898. The devoted wife and mother was summoned to eternal rest on the 28th of May, 1913, and the surviving children are as noted: Mary E. is the wife of John T. Foley, of Salt Lake City, Utah; Michael J., M. D., is engaged in the practice of his profession at Mason City, this state; and Edward C., Ellen C., James F., and Catherine R. still maintain their home at Elkader.

**John L. Flanagan**, owner of the Majestic theater of Elkader, was born in Chicago, Illinois, January 25, 1868, and was the son of Michael and Catherine (Quinn) Flanagan, both of whom were natives of Ireland, now deceased. Emigrating to America, they went to Clayton county, Iowa, in 1859, where the father engaged in farming. He took an active part in the political affairs of his county, and held several minor township offices. Three children were born to them: Catherine, living in Chicago; John L., the subject of this sketch; and Martin J., of Selby, South Dakota. John Flanagan was reared on his father's farm, remaining there until he was twenty-one years of age. He then went into business for himself, engaging in the buying and selling of grain in South Dakota for five years. Returning to Elkader, he met with an accident to his leg, caused by a fall of a horse, which incapacitated him for further active physical work, and in 1910 he entered into the moving picture business, a successful undertaking, called the Majestic Moving Picture Theater. He shares in the public activities of his city as justice of the peace, and in religious matters is a member of the Catholic church.

**Joseph W. Forward** is giving a most able administration as cashier of the State Bank of Edgewood and is known not only as a careful and efficient executive and representative business man

but also as a citizen whose place in popular confidence and esteem is one of inviolable order. He was born at Waterville, Oneida county, New York, on the 26th of October, 1856, and is a son of Jonah and Jane (Stantial) Forward, both of whom were born in England. The father immigrated to America in 1840 and established his residence in Oneida county, New York, where he engaged in farming. Later he removed with his family to Illinois, where he long continued his identification with the same basic line of industrial enterprise, and both he and his wife passed the closing years of their lives at Rockton, Winnebago county, that state, where his death occurred August 24, 1903, and hers on the 25th of October, 1913. They became the parents of eight children, concerning whom the following brief data may consistently be recorded: William resides at Rockton, Illinois; James resides at Berlin, Wisconsin, George at Union Grove, and Charles at Oshkosh, that state. The subject of this sketch was the next in order of birth and is the only representative of the immediate family in Iowa, with the exception of his next younger brother, Edwin, who resides at Sheldon, O'Brien county, and Mary and Robert maintain their home at Rockton, Illinois. Joseph W. Forward received his early education in the public schools and remained at the parental home until he had attained to his legal majority. In the meanwhile he learned the art and trade of telegraphy, and as a youth he served eight years as a telegraph operator in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. He then engaged in the mercantile business at Edgewood, Clayton county, where he has since maintained his home. After having continued his association with mercantile enterprise for a period of seven years he was chosen cashier of the State Bank of Edgewood, of which office he has since continued the efficient and valued incumbent, his service in this capacity having been initiated in the year 1898. His political proclivities are shown in his alignment as a loyal advocate and supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church. On the 5th of March, 1881, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Forward to Miss Anna L. Royden, who was born and reared at Rockton, Illinois, and they have two children, Jennie L. and Ruth, both of whom are able and popular teachers in the public schools.

**John Foster**, manager of the Floete Lumber Company of Elkader, Iowa, was born in that state in Fayette County, August 18, 1868, and is the son of John Allen and Jessie (McNaught) Foster, both natives of Scotland. The father came to America at the youthful age of 13 years, locating in Pennsylvania. At the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861 he enlisted for the service of his country in the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, in which he served faithfully four years. He fought and was wounded in the battle of Bunker Hill, was captured by the Confederates and held a prisoner in Andersonville for three weeks. After the close of the war he went to Fayette county, where he engaged in the peaceful pursuit of



farming, and went to a well-earned repose in death February 10, 1914, leaving his wife still living at Arlington, Fayette county, Iowa. They were the parents of ten children who, in the order of their birth, are Allen, of Arlington, Iowa; John, the sketch of whose life will follow; Betsy, deceased; Thomas, of Strawberry Point; Isabel, the wife of Oscar Finuf, of Independence, Iowa; Eliza, who died in infancy; Rob, dead at the age of thirteen years; Archibald and William, who are engaged in business together in Webster City, Iowa; and Jesse, who is a physician of Aurora, South Dakota. John Foster married when he was twenty-one, and came to Elkader as a helper in the lumber yard of the Floete Lumber Company, and devoted himself so sedulously to his work for seven years that his untiring energy and devotion to the interests of his employers was rewarded by them in making him manager of their company, and that trust he still faithfully and efficiently discharges. He is united in marriage to Clara Dell Ogle, a native of Fayette county, and to them have been born one son and three daughters: Freemont J., Clara Belle, Jessie, and Rebecca. Mr. Foster is a consistent and intelligent member of the Republican party, and belongs to the fraternal organizations of the M. B. A., and Yeomen, and is affiliated with the Congregational church.

**George F. Freeman** was a boy at the time of his parents' removal from the old Empire State to Iowa, and during the long intervening years he has looked upon the Hawkeye commonwealth as his home, though his career has been one marked by varied and interesting experiences, in which the domination of the wanderlust was not absent in the period of his young manhood. He is now numbered among the substantial citizens and business men of McGregor, and is one of the well known and distinctly popular citizens of Clayton county, with a circle of friends that is limited only by that of his acquaintances. Through his own efforts Mr. Freeman has won independence and prosperity, and in addition to having operated for nearly fifteen years a ferry line between McGregor and Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, on opposite sides of the Mississippi, he has been engaged also in the piano business at McGregor since 1913. Mr. Freeman was born in Madison county, New York, on the 5th of June, 1856, and is a son of George B. and Adelia (Coon) Freeman, both likewise natives of that State, where the respective families were founded in an early day. In 1865, when the subject of this review was a lad of nine years, the family came to Iowa and established residence at Ossian, Winneshiek county, where the father engaged in the work of his trade, that of blacksmith. In 1872 George B. Freeman removed with his family to Decorah, the judicial center of that county, where he continued his activities until 1882. He passed the ensuing two years in the State of Minnesota, then returned to Decorah, but two years later removed to Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, where he continued his residence until 1896, when he returned with his wife to Clayton county and established his home at McGregor. He was, like Tubal Cain of old, a veritable "man of might," and was known as a skilled artisan at his trade, to which he devoted the

greater part of his active career—a sturdy, upright citizen who commanded the high regard of his fellow men. His devoted wife passed to the life eternal in 1909, and in the following year he too passed away, so that in death they were not long divided. Of their children the first-born was Eva, who was about 35 years of age at the time of her death; the second child was a daughter who died in infancy; George F., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Mary is the wife of Henry Chase, of Deer River, Minnesota; Edith died when about 30 years of age; Nellie is the wife of Samuel A. Edgar and they reside in the State of Kansas; Charles is a resident of the city of Chicago and Henry of Minnesota; and Jennie is the wife of Henry Smith, their home being in the State of Michigan. George F. Freeman gained his early education in the public schools of New York and Iowa, and when eighteen years of age he left the parental home, at Decorah, and set forth with a circus or show troupe for Minnesota. Proceeding by boat up the Mississippi river to Winona, that State, the party thence made the overland trip to Wabasha, Minnesota, where the manager of the show rented a hotel and in the same began manufacturing a quantity of canvas into a tent for his show. Prospects by this time did not seem so promising or alluring to the young man from Iowa, and thus Mr. Freeman severed his association with the prospective amusement enterprise and found employment on the ferry line across the Mississippi river at Reed's Landing. Longing for home had soon animated him to such an extent that he made the best possible provision for returning to the parental roof by purchasing a skiff in which to make his somewhat venturesome and hazardous way down the river. The first night out he disembarked at La Crosse, Wisconsin, and thence he continued his voyage down to McGregor, his present place of residence, and by working at such employment as he could obtain he maintained himself until he again arrived at the parental home. This youthful adventure occurred in the year 1874, and in the following year, at Decorah, he took unto himself a young wife, in the person of Miss Kate Allan, who knew his financial resources were at the lowest ebb but who had faith in his ability to provide for them. The marriage ceremony was performed on Monday and the following Wednesday the young groom walked a distance of fifteen miles into the country and obtained work in the harvest field. Each Saturday night during the harvest season he walked back to Decorah to remain with his wife over Sunday, and the early matutinal hours of Monday found him again plodding his way to the farm on which he was employed—fifteen miles distant, as previously noted. Through his arduous labors in the harvest he earned ninety-five dollars, and with this financial reinforcement he and his wife engaged in housekeeping at Decorah. In 1877 they removed to North McGregor, Clayton county, and after there establishing a home Mr. Freeman entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, the first year having been given to service of cleaning coaches and the two ensuing years to work as a brakeman on the main line of the road. He

was then advanced to the position of locomotive freman, of which he continued the incumbent for five years, and after learning the art of telegraphy he held the post of operator for the same railroad as a dispatcher, his entire association with the road covering a period of eighteen years. Thereafter he was for a time engaged in mercantile business for some time, and in 1902 he built a ferry boat which he placed in operation between McGregor and Prairie du Chien and which provides for the transportation of both passengers and freight. He has successfully operated this ferry line during the intervening years and, as previously noted, he has also developed a prosperous business in the sale of pianos, being agent for the F. Radle Piano Co., New York City, Lyon & Healy, Chicago, Schuman Piano Co., Chicago, and Morenus Piano Co., Chicago, with which line of enterprise he has been identified since 1913. Loyal and public-spirited as a citizen and a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, Mr. Freeman has been called upon to serve as a member of the board of aldermen of the city of McGregor, in which position he was the zealous advocate and supporter of progressive policies and yet duly conservative in the management of municipal affairs in general. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, and both he and his wife hold membership in the adjunct organization, the Order of the Eastern Star. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman became the parents of two sons, of whom the younger died in infancy; Robert R. followed in the footsteps of his father and identified himself with railway operations, in connection with which he has won advancement to the position of conductor on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad.

**Benjamin Frieden** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his nativity and is the owner of one of the large and splendidly improved landed estates of the county, the same being situated in Marion and Highland township and including the old homestead farm on which he was born, the date of his nativity having been January 14, 1836. He is a son of Benedict and Anna (Baumgartner) Frieden, both of whom were born in the fine little republic of Switzerland, whose "mountains still are free and keep the boon of liberty." Benedict Frieden was a young man at the time of his immigration to America, and after residing for a time in Ohio he came to Iowa and numbered himself among the enterprising farmers of Marion township, where he eventually accumulated and brought under successful cultivation a large landed property. Here he continued his residence, as one of the sterling and honored citizens of the county, until his death, which occurred when he was sixty-six years of age. The wife of his youth passed to eternal rest when their son Benjamin, of this review, was a child of three years. They became the parents of nine children: Frederick is now engaged in farming in the state of Missouri; John is a resident of Oklahoma; Samuel is deceased; Frank resides in Oklahoma; Eliza is deceased, as are also Mary Ann and Joseph; the subject of this sketch was the eighth child; and the youngest, Annie, is the wife of Joseph Sneider, of West Bend, Palo Alto county, this state. For his second wife the father wedded Mechlin Garber, who



survives him, and they became the parents of two children—Rose, who died in childhood, and Selma, who is the wife of Tim Thomann, of Elgin, this county. Benjamin Frieden was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and in the meanwhile he made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native township. He continued his active association with the work of the home farm until the death of his honored father, shortly after which he purchased the interests of the other heirs and became the owner of the well improved property, which comprised three hundred acres, in Marion township. Material evidence of his success and progressiveness is given in his ownership at the present time of a fine estate of nearly seven hundred acres, and he is known as one of the enterprising and representative agriculturists and stock-growers of his native county. The attractive family home, in Marion township, is on the homestead which was Mr. Frieden's birthplace, and it is modern in its facilities and appointments, as are also the other excellent and substantial buildings on the large domain owned by Mr. Frieden. He is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, and he has served as township trustee and as president of the school board of his district. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Apostolic Lutheran church. April 9, 1887, recorded the marriage of Mr. Frieden to Miss Leah Sneider, and she passed to the life eternal on the 29th of January, 1905. Of this union were born eight children: Celia is the wife of Daniel Butikofer, of Marion township; William is engaged in farming in Highland township; Ida is the wife of Samuel Butikofer, of Fayette county; Esther is the wife of Emil Moor and they reside in Iowa; Levi and Bertha remain at the paternal home; Emil is identified with agricultural pursuits in Highland township; and Louisa died in early childhood. For his second wife Mr. Frieden chose Mrs. Rachel (Sneider) Sutler, a sister of his first wife. The parents, Joseph and Mary Pfarrer Sneider, were born and reared in Switzerland and became early settlers of Clayton county, where the father became a prosperous farmer and where his death occurred on the 7th of May, 1914. Mrs. Sneider survives her husband and still maintains her home in this county. At the time of her marriage to the subject of this review, Mrs. Frieden was the widow of Frederick Sutler, of Marion township, and of the children of her first marriage Joseph and Frederick are deceased; Lucy is the wife of John Butikofer, of Marion township; Daniel is a substantial farmer in that township; Marie is the wife of Elmer Bluiner and they are now residing in the state of Illinois; and William and Eli remain in Marion township. Of the second marriage no children have been born.

**Fred J. Friedlein** is one of the progressive and influential business men of the younger generation in his native county and is manifesting much initiative and administrative ability as manager of the Guttenberg yards and business of the Meuser Lumber Company, of which important corporation he is vice-president, the company having control of a chain of lumber yards in the county and the extensive headquarters at Guttenberg being the distributing

yards from which the other branches of the important business are supplied. The Guttenberg branch was established many years ago and came under the control of the present owners in 1908, with Fred J. Friedlein as manager. The flourishing enterprise includes the wholesale and retail dealing in lumber, coal, cement, plaster, brick, general lines of building material, silos, etc., and the extent of the business is indicated by the fact that in connection therewith employment is given to a force of from eight to ten persons. Fred J. Friedlein was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 9th of September, 1879, and is a son of Frederick and Harriet (Schrunk) Friedlein, both representatives of sterling pioneer families of Clayton county. Frederick Friedlein was born in Schmalz, Germany, on the 7th of August, 1850, and in his native land he was baptized in the German Lutheran church. He was but two years of age at the time of the family immigration to America, and the home was established in Clayton county. Here he was reared to manhood and here he gained his early education in the village schools of Guttenberg. His parents were honored pioneers of the county and here passed the residue of their lives. He himself became a prominent and successful exponent of agricultural industry and was the owner of one of the fine farms of the county at the time of his death, which occurred on the 3d of June, 1886. He was a Republican in politics, was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and his wife were earnest members of the Lutheran church. Mrs. Friedlein survived her husband by more than a quarter of a century and was summoned to eternal rest on the 26th of June, 1913, her entire life having been passed in Clayton county, where her parents settled in the pioneer days soon after their immigration from Germany. Of the children of Frederick and Harriet Friedlein the eldest is Ella, who is the wife of Lewis D. Moser; Wiley is a resident of Guttenberg; Fred J., of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Ina is the wife of George Erhart, their home being in the state of Idaho; and Lourelle is a resident of Lewistown, Montana. Fred J. Friedlein made good use of the advantages afforded in the schools of Guttenberg and after completing the curriculum thereof he took an effective course in the Dubuque Business College, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1900. For ten months thereafter he was employed in a lumber yard at Guttenberg, and for the ensuing ten months he was a clerk in a local shoe store. He then assumed a place in a local lumber office and he has since been continuously identified with the lumber business, in which his advancement has been won by his own ability and well directed activities, his close application and excellent judgment having given him a thorough knowledge of all details of the business of which he is now a prominent exponent in his native county. He is loyal and public-spirited in his civic attitude, but has manifested no ambition for public office. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has a wide circle of friends in both business and social circles in his native county. On the 9th of September, 1903, was solemnized the



marriage of Mr. Friedlein to Miss Clara Scholz, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of W. Herman Scholz, of Guttenberg. Mr. and Mrs. Friedlein have a winsome little daughter, Julia Harriet, who was born August 2, 1909.

**William Fuelling**, president of the Farmersburg Grain Company, and democratic mayor of that city, was born in Germany, July 19, 1866, the son of Henry and Mary (Meeger) Fuelling. The father having died in Germany, the mother, with rare courage, emigrated to America with her seven children, going to Iowa, and locating in Clayton county, Garnavillo township. She suffered the loss of her two eldest children, Laura and Yetta, but five still survive: Louisa, the wife of Louis Gelherman, of Healdsburg, Cal.; Louis, of Farmersburg, Iowa; Julia, married and living in Lamars, Iowa; Ernest, a farmer of Wagner township; and William, our subject, who is the youngest of the family. He worked on the farm until he was seventeen years of age, but at that time learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for three years, then engaged in contracting and building, afterwards going into the lumber business, in which he still continues. He was married January 19, 1888, to Louisa Seifert, a native of Clayton county, and they had three children, Otto, the eldest, and Leroy and Alma, deceased. Mr. Fuelling is a member of the Masonic lodge and of the Woodmen of the World. In his religious belief he is a Lutheran and is a member of that church. His son Otto, who is associated with him in his lumber business, was born in Clayton county, March 20, 1889, and was married May 13, 1910, to Miss Genevieve Brown, of Cresco, Iowa. Two children are the result of this union, Kenneth Williams, and Winifred Emma Louise. Otto Fuelling, like his father, is a member of the Democratic party and has served on the town council. He is a Mason and a member of the Lutheran church.

**John C. Garms** is another representative of a pioneer family of Clayton county and has secure status as one of the substantial farmers and influential citizens of Giard township, where he owns and operates a fine landed estate of three hundred and forty-one acres and where his hold upon popular confidence and esteem is indicated by his incumbency, in 1916, of the office of township trustee. Mr. Garms was born in Farmersburg township, this county, on the 23d of February, 1863, and is a scion of the fine German stock that has played most benignant and effective part in the development of the resources of Clayton county and in the maintaining of a high civic standard in this favored section of the Hawkeye State. Mr. Garms is a son of Joachim and Katherine (Schultz) Garms, both of whom were born in Mecklenburg, Germany. The father was reared and educated in his native land and came to the United States about the year 1853. Soon after his arrival in America he made his way to Iowa and established his residence near Garnavillo, Clayton county. After being employed by others for a short interval he rented a farm in Farmersburg township and his industry and frugality soon fortified him sufficiently to enable him to purchase a farm of his own, in Monona township. There he continued his successful activities as an agri-



culturist and stock grower until he had attained to advanced age, and he passed the remainder of his life in the well-earned retirement that constitutes a fitting sequel to years of earnest and honest industry. He was a Democrat in politics and both he and his wife were zealous communicants of the German Lutheran church, Mrs. Garms having survived her husband by a period of several years. Of their children the eldest is Henry, who is now a resident of Charles City, Floyd county; Annie and Elizabeth died young; Minnie is the widow of Henry Berg and resides in the village of Clayton, this county; John C., of this review; Mary is the wife of Herman Knut, of Monona township; Reika is the wife of William Durring, of Luana, this county; and William is deceased. The early educational advantages of John C. Garms were those afforded in the schools of Pleasant Grove township. He became his father's effective assistant in the work and management of the old homestead farm and thus continued his activities until he purchased the property. He sold this homestead place and purchased a farm of one hundred and eighty-eight acres in Section 5, Monona township. Later he added one hundred and fifty-three acres to his estate, and thus he now has a valuable farmstead of more than three hundred acres; the while he is an effective exponent of progressive agriculture and stock growing in his native county. Mr. Garms is a stalwart in the local camp of the Democratic party, has shown a vital interest in all things pertaining to the communal welfare and is giving most effective service in the office of township trustee, beside which he is a member of the board of trustees of the German Lutheran church at Monona, of which both he and his wife are earnest communicants and loyal supporters. November 29, 1889, recorded the marriage of Mr. Garms to Miss Annie Schroeder, who was born in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 18th of May, 1863, and who is a daughter of August Schroeder, who was born in Hanover, Germany, and who became one of the pioneer settlers of Clayton county, where he was for many years a prosperous farmer and where he and his wife, who likewise was a native of the kingdom of Hanover, passed the remainder of their lives, honored by all who knew them and secure in the faith of the German Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Garms have five children: Catherine is the wife of Robert Woskoe, of Monona township; Rudolph is an energetic representative of agricultural industry in that township; and Walter, Robert and Selma complete the family circle at the parental home, which is pervaded by the atmosphere of good cheer and prosperity and which is known for its generous but unassuming hospitality.

**Benjamin F. Gaylord** came with his parents to Clayton county when he was a lad of eleven years and he is now one of the venerable and honored citizens of the village of Strawberry Point, which has represented his home from the time when he returned to Clayton county as a gallant young veteran who had given most loyal and efficient service as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war. He is the only surviving member of a family of nine children, and three of his brothers sacrificed their lives on the field of battle in

the Civil war, their remains being laid to rest in soldiers' graves in the south. Mr. Gaylord was born in Illinois on the 30th of April, 1838, and is a son of Stephen and Rachel A. (Robinson) Gaylord, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of North Carolina. The father became a pioneer of the state of Illinois, where he established his home in 1827, and in 1832 he represented that state as a gallant soldier in the historic Black Hawk Indian war. In 1849 he came with his family to Iowa and became one of the early pioneer settlers of Clayton county, where he obtained a tract of wild land, in Cass township, and where he instituted the reclamation of a farm. He secured the land from the government and his first domicile was a rude log house of the true pioneer type, the same having a roof of rough boards, a puncheon floor, a chimney of mud and sticks, and a primitive door with the old-time latch-string. This sturdy pioneer did not live to enjoy the fruition of his earnest labors as a farmer in Clayton county, for he passed to the life eternal on the 14th of January, 1854. His widow survived him by more than thirty years and was one of the revered pioneer women of the county at the time of her death, in 1886. As previously stated, Benjamin F. Gaylord was a lad of eleven years at the time the family home was established on the frontier farm in Clayton county, and here he was reared under the conditions and influences of the pioneer days, his educational advantages having been those afforded in the somewhat meager schools of the day. He was a sturdy and industrious youth of twenty-three years at the time of the inception of the Civil war, and his loyalty and patriotism prompted him at once to abate his labors on the farm and go forth in defense of the Union. He responded to President Lincoln's first call and, in September, 1861, enlisted as a private in Company G, Third Missouri Volunteer Cavalry. With this gallant command he served three years, within which he took part in many engagements, including a number of the important battles of the war, and it was his misfortune to have been wounded on five different occasions, on one of which he was left supposedly dead on the battlefield. He continued with his command until November, 1864, when he was mustered out, in the city of St. Louis—a loyal soldier who well merited the honorable discharge that was accorded to him. In later years he has vitalized his memories of the great conflict in which he thus took part by means of his appreciative affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. After the close of his military career Mr. Gaylord returned to Clayton county and became a clerk in a mercantile establishment at Strawberry Point, and with this line of enterprise he continued his active association for thirty years, since which time he has lived virtually retired in the village that has long represented his home. In Clayton county this venerable citizen has a host of staunch friends and finds that his "lines are cast in pleasant places." His allegiance to the Republican party has been unflinching, but the only office in which he has served was that of tax collector, of which he was the incumbent for one term. He is affiliated with Lodge No. 130, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and has passed various official chairs in the same.

In 1865 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gaylord to Mrs. Clara M. (Eaton) Gaylord, the widow of his brother, who met his death while serving as a soldier of the Civil war. Mrs. Gaylord was born in the state of Vermont and was a daughter of Amos and Maria Eaton, sterling pioneer settlers of Clayton county. The supreme loss and bereavement in the life of Mr. Gaylord came when his devoted wife was summoned to eternal rest, her death having occurred in May, 1891. Of their four children the last died in infancy and the other three survived the loved mother, although Burton M. and Minnie A. have since passed away; Alice E. is the wife of Robert C. Barnes, assistant cashier of the Strawberry Point State Bank, and with them her venerable father now makes his home.

**John Geraghty** has long been numbered among the substantial agriculturists of Clayton county, is a representative of a sterling pioneer family of this section of the state and has here maintained his home since he was a lad of seven years. He has shown the sturdy purpose, industry and progressiveness that are the distinct urge to worthy success and is to be considered one of the really representative citizens of Giard township, where he is the owner of a well improved farm, his home receiving mail service on Rural Route No. 1 from the village of McGregor. Mr. Geraghty was born in the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, on the 8th of June, 1847, and is a son of Patrick and Anna (Kelly) Geraghty, both native of County Mayo, Ireland, where the former was born March 17, 1816, and the latter in the year 1814, their marriage having been solemnized in their native land. In 1846 this aspiring young couple emigrated to America, confident of their ability to gain in this country the goal of definite prosperity. They remained about one year in the city of New Orleans and thence went to Loveland, Ohio, in which State Patrick Geraghty found employment at railroad work until 1855, when he came with his family to Clayton county, Iowa, and became one of the pioneer settlers of Giard township, where he obtained a tract of eighty acres of wild land and began the reclamation of a farm. Prosperity attended his earnest and indefatigable efforts and he was eventually enabled to add to the area of his farm until he had a valuable landed estate of two hundred and forty acres. He erected good buildings on the homestead and there continued to reside, as one of the prosperous and popular citizens of the county, until the time of his death, which occurred December 8, 1892. He was undeviating in his allegiance to the Democratic party and took a lively interest in community affairs, as was shown by his being called upon to serve as road supervisor and also as a director of his school district. Both he and his wife were earnest communicants of the Catholic church, in the faith of which they carefully reared their children, and Mrs. Geraghty survived her honored husband by less than five years, as she was summoned to the life eternal on the 19th of March, 1897. Of the children the subject of this sketch is the eldest and the only one of the number born in Louisiana; Patrick is a resident of Monona, this county; Mary is the widow of Thomas McGovern



and resides in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Michael and Catherine are deceased; James is a substantial farmer of Giard township, and Anna is deceased. John Geraghty was an infant at the time of his parents' removal to Ohio and was a lad of seven years when removal was made to Clayton county, where he has marked the passing years with worthy achievement and where he has inviolable place in popular confidence and esteem. His early education was acquired in the pioneer schools of Giard township and he continued to be a valued assistant in the work of his father's farm until 1875, when, at the age of twenty-eight years, he purchased eighty acres of land in Giard township, this being part of the old homestead of his father. Later he added eighty acres to the area of his farm, which, under this industrious and well-ordered management, has been developed into one of the finely improved and most productive places in Giard township, the same being devoted to diversified agriculture and to the raising of excellent grades of live stock. Mr. Geraghty is found aligned as a supporter of the cause of the Republican party, is a loyal and public-spirited citizen and served for the long period of twenty-three years in the office of township assessor, his careful and effective administration having created none of the enmities that often attend such official prerogatives and having been most satisfactory in a popular sense. He and his wife are zealous communicants of the Catholic church and he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus. On the 18th of April, 1876, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Geraghty to Miss Anna English, who was born in County Mayo, Ireland, on the 16th of April, 1855, and who gained her early education in the parochial schools of her native land. In 1869, when she was a girl of fourteen years, she accompanied her parents on their emigration to the United States, and the family home was soon afterward established in Mendon township, Clayton county, where her parents, Anthony and Honora (Solon) English, passed the residue of their lives, honored by all who knew them and both earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. English became one of the prosperous farmers of Mendon township and was influential in local affairs, his political support having been given to the Democratic party. Mr. and Mrs. Geraghty became the parents of ten children, concerning whom brief mention is made in conclusion of this review; Patrick is now residing in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota; John, Jr., is associated with agricultural industry in Mendon township; Michael is a resident of Sioux City, this State; James and Francis are deceased; Thomas maintains his home in the city of Great Falls, Montana; Joseph is associated in the work and management of the home farm; James is deceased, and Catherine and Edward are the younger members of the family circle of the parental home, which is known for its hospitality and good cheer.

**Michael Geraghty** passed virtually his entire life in Clayton county though it was his to claim the old Buckeye State as the place of his nativity. His parents came to Clayton county when he was an infant and became pioneer settlers in Giard township,

where, earnest and upright, they passed the residue of their lives, secure in the high regard of the community in which they lived and labored to goodly ends. Michael Geraghty long held secure vantage place as one of the representative farmers and honored and influential citizens of Giard township, and on his fine homestead farm he continued to reside until his death, which occurred on the 14th of October, 1906. He was born at Loveland, Clermont county, Ohio, on the 14th of March, 1855, and is a son of Patrick and Anna (Kelly) Geraghty, both natives of County Mayo, Ireland, where they were reared to maturity and where their marriage was solemnized. Soon after this important event in their lives the young couple severed the ties that bound them to the fair Emerald Isle and came to the United States. After passing about one year in the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, they removed to Clermont county, Ohio, where Patrick Geraghty was employed at railroad work until 1855, when, shortly after the birth of the subject of this memoir, he came with his family to Iowa and became a pioneer settler of Giard township, Clayton county. He obtained a tract of eighty acres of land and was indefatigable in his well-ordered industry, which eventually resulted in his becoming the owner of a well-improved landed estate of more than two hundred acres. He was one of the substantial and highly esteemed pioneer citizens of the county at the time of his death, which occurred December 8, 1892, and his devoted wife passed away on the 19th of March, 1897, both having been earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Of their children three sons and two daughters are still living, and of the family further mention is made on other pages of this work, in the sketch dedicated to the eldest son, John, who is one of the well known citizens of Clayton county. Michael Geraghty was reared under the benignant influence of the home farm and was indebted to the pioneer schools of Giard township for his early educational training. He continued to assist his father in the activities of the old homestead farm until he had attained to his legal majority, when he began a virtual apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade as a skilled workman at which he thereafter applied himself until 1887, when he purchased a farm of sixty acres in Giard township, later adding to its area by the purchase of a contiguous tract of eighty acres. He made excellent improvements on the place, including the erection of substantial and modern buildings, and here he continued his activities as a thrifty and progressive agriculturist and stock-grower until the time of his death, his widow still maintaining her home on the fine farm that is endeared to her by many gracious memories and associations. Mr. Geraghty commanded the unequivocal confidence and good will of all who knew him, was a man of alert mentality and of impregnable integrity in all of the relations of life, and he was influential in community affairs. His political allegiance was given to the Democratic party but the only public office in which he ever consented to serve was that of school director. He was a zealous communicant of the Catholic church at Monona, as is also his widow. On the 3rd of May, 1886, was solemnized the marriage of



Mr. Geraghty to Miss Catherine O'Malley, who was born in Allamakee county, this State, on the 4th of May, 1863, a daughter of Charles and Anna (Burns) O'Malley, both natives of County Mayo, Ireland, where the former was born August 8, 1817, and the latter on the 7th of June, 1829, their marriage having been there solemnized on the 3d of May, 1849. In 1852 Mr. O'Malley immigrated with his family to the United States and established his home in Allamakee county, Iowa, where he became a substantial pioneer farmer and contributed his quota to the civic and industrial development of the county. A man of sterling character, he commanded unqualified popular respect and when venerable in years he and his wife came to the home of their daughter Catherine, wife of the subject of this memoir, where he received the utmost filial care and devotion until he was summoned to the life eternal, on the 23d of May, 1911, about three months prior to the eighty-second anniversary of his birth. His venerable widow remains a loved and revered member of the family circle at the home of Mrs. Geraghty, and, like him, she is a devoted communicant of the Catholic church. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. O'Malley, Mary and James are deceased; Bridget is the wife of Lewis Larson, of Lawler, Chickasaw county, this state; Edward, Sabina, Patrick and John are deceased; Mrs. Geraghty was the next in order of birth; and Hannah is deceased. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Geraghty remain with their widowed mother and their names and respective dates of birth are here noted: John, March 8, 1887; Mayme, May 23, 1889; and Michael, May 8, 1892.

**Otto Germar** is another of the native sons of Clayton county who has here found an excellent field for the achieving of definite success through normal and legitimate mediums of productive enterprise, and he is associated with his brother Albert in the carrying on of a substantial and representative business in contracting and building, with residence and business headquarters in the thriving village of Volga. His progressiveness is on a plane with his technical ability as a carpenter and builder, and his advancement has been gained through his own well directed efforts and steadfast integrity of purpose. Mr. Germar was born in the city of Guttenberg, this county, on the 28th of January, 1870, and is a representative of a family whose name has been worthily linked with the history of the county for virtually a period of seventy years, the record thus running back to the very early pioneer epoch. He is a son of Henry and Theresa (Brumell) Germar, who were born and reared in Germany and who immigrated to the United States in 1846. These sterling pioneers disembarked in the city of New Orleans, and in the following year made their way up the Mississippi river to become pioneer colonists in Clayton county, Iowa. They established their home in the frontier village of Guttenberg and there Henry Germar engaged in the work of his trade, that of carpenter. In the autumn of 1877 he removed with his family to Volga and opened a lumber yard. Here he continued to conduct a prosperous lumber business for nearly thirty years, his retirement from the same having occurred in 1905, shortly after the death of his wife,



who had been his devoted companion and helpmeet. After having profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county, Otto Germar further fortified himself by taking a course in the Bayless Business College at Dubuque. He remained at the parental home until he had attained to his legal majority and in the meanwhile he had served a practical and effective apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, under the punctilious direction of his father. His independent business career was initiated when he formed a partnership with his brother Albert and they began the development of their now large and prosperous business in contracting and building. They have erected many buildings of the best modern type and have thus contributed much to the material advancement of their native county, the while they have stood exponent also of loyal and liberal citizenship. Otto Germar is the owner of several pieces of real estate in Volga, including his attractive residence property. He is affiliated with the local lodge No. 72, of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and he and his wife attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church in their home city. In 1902 Mr. Germar wedded Miss Valeria Green, who was born at Volga, in the year 1876, and who is a daughter of Peter and Lydia (Sherman) Green, the former of whom was born and reared in Clayton county, a member of a very early pioneer family, and the latter of whom was born in the state of Illinois. Mr. Green died in 1900 and his widow still resides at Volga. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Germar the second and fourth, Gilbert and Russell, died in early childhood. The surviving children all remain at the parental home—Gretchen, Norbet G., and Leota.

**Martin X. Geske** now holds secure place as one of the representative members of the bar of his native county and is engaged in the practice of his profession in the fine little city of McGregor, where he was born on the 1st of November, 1870, a scion of a family whose name has been worthily identified with the history of this county for more than half a century. Mr. Geske is known as a man of high academic and professional attainments and prior to his initiating the practice of law he had made an admirable reputation as a successful and popular representative of the pedagogic profession. He is a son of Frederick F. and Mary S. (Wilkin) Geske, both of whom were born in Prussia. Frederick F. Geske was reared and educated in his native land, where also he served an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade. In 1856 he came to the United States, assured that in the great American republic would be offered better opportunities for the achieving of independence and prosperity through individual effort. Soon after his arrival he made his way to Minnesota and established his residence at Taylor's Falls, where he engaged in the work of his trade and became bridge-foreman for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. In 1859 he became one of the pioneer settlers at McGregor, Iowa, and here he was for a number of years associated with Robert Schultz in the manufacture and sale of carbonated beverages, including soda and pop. The two partners made the

enterprise a success and built up a substantial trade throughout this section. In 1867 Mr. Geske purchased a farm of seventy-eight acres, lying contiguous to McGregor, and here he found diversion from his regular business activities by giving his supervision to the cultivation and improvement of the farm, to which he added six acres. This fine little homestead of eighty-five acres is still in the possession of the family. Frederick F. Geske was an upright, substantial citizen who commanded unqualified popular esteem, and he contributed his quota to the development and progress of the county and the thriving little city of McGregor, wherein his death occurred on the 17th of March, 1897, and where his widow still maintains her home. He was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party and his religious faith was that of the Lutheran church, of which his wife likewise became a member in her youth. Of the children of this sterling pioneer couple the subject of this review is the first-born; Henry resides at McGregor and is carrying forward the prosperous business here established by his father many years ago; Albert is now a resident of Sioux City; Kate is the wife of Anton Huebsch, who is postmaster of McGregor and who is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; Edith is the wife of Fred Ertz and they reside in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota; Amy is the wife of George Heffren, of St. Paul; and Sadie is the wife of Carl F. Mehlhop, of Dubuque. In the public schools of McGregor Martin X. Geske continued his studies until he had completed the curriculum of the high school, and after his graduation he held for ten months a position as clerk in a general merchandise establishment at Monona, this county. He then passed successfully an examination that entitled him to a teacher's certificate, and after receiving this evidence of eligibility he obtained the position of teacher in the public schools at Hardin, Allamakee county, where he remained thus engaged for seven months. For the ensuing two months he taught an unexpired term in a district school west of Guttenberg, Clayton county, and in the autumn of 1891 he entered the normal department of what is now Valparaiso University, in the city of Valparaiso, Indiana. In this great institution he completed a scientific course and was there a student until 1893, in the autumn of which year he went to Windom, Minnesota, where he remained one year as teacher in the public schools. He was then elected principal of the public schools at Lake Crystal, that State, and after a year of successful work in this position he entered the University of Minnesota, where he vigorously pursued a course of study, until the death of his father in the spring of 1897, made it virtually necessary for him to leave the institution. In consonance with a well formulated ambition, Mr. Geske soon afterward began reading law, under the preceptorship of D. D. Murphy, a leading member of the bar of Elkader, judicial center of Clayton county. After one year of such preliminary discipline he entered the law department of Drake University, at Des Moines, where he continued his technical studies one year and admirably fortified himself for the work of his chosen profession. He was graduated in this institution as a member of the class of 1900, with

the degree of Bachelor of Laws and with virtually concomitant admission to the bar of his native State. Thereafter he was for one year associated in practice with his former preceptor, Mr. Murphy, and in 1902 he removed from the county seat to his native city of McGregor, where he has built up a substantial and representative general practice and gained definite precedence as a resourceful trial lawyer and well fortified counselor. He served from 1904 to 1908 as county attorney, and his unqualified popularity in the city that represents his "native heath," has been shown in his being called upon to serve as a member of its municipal council, of which office he is the incumbent in 1916, besides which he had the distinction of being elected mayor of the city, in which office he gave a most progressive and effective administration, from 1911 to 1913. His public spirit has been shown also by his earnest and effective service as a member of and president of the board of education of McGregor, through the medium of which he has manifested his deep and abiding interest in educational affairs. Mr. Geske is found aligned as a staunch and effective advocate of the principles of the Democratic party, is a member of the Clayton County Bar Association and the Iowa State Bar Association, and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Woodmen of the World and the Masonic fraternity, in which last mentioned he has served several terms as master of Bezer Lodge, No. 135, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, at McGregor. He attends and gives liberal support to the local Congregational church, and is always ready to give his support to measures tending to enhance the general welfare of his native city and county, where he still permits his name to be enrolled on the roster of eligible bachelors.

**E. L. Gifford** is one of the representative young business men of his native county and is a son of Horatio L. Gifford, a sterling and influential citizen of whom specific mention is made on other pages of this volume, so that further review of the family history is not demanded at this juncture. He whose name introduces this article is the efficient and popular cashier of the Littleport Savings Bank, and his progressiveness and popularity having been indicated by his service of four years as mayor of Littleport, a position in which he gave a most effective and satisfactory administration of municipal affairs. He has served also as township clerk, and he is now treasurer of the Littleport board of education and treasurer of the Littleport Farmers' Co-operative Company. In politics he is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party and he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity. Mr. Gifford was born at Mederville, this county, on the 19th of June, 1883, and after having fully availed himself of the advantages of the public schools he initiated his active business career. For five and one-half years he conducted a prosperous general merchandise business at Littleport, and of this business he disposed in 1910, in which year he was elected to his present position, that of cashier of the Littleport Savings Bank. On the 24th of December, 1903, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gifford to Miss Ilda Ortmann, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and the one child



of this union is a winsome little daughter, Ilo May, who was born January 11, 1904.

**George L. Gifford** holds precedence as one of the alert and progressive young business men of Clayton county and maintains his residence in the thriving village of Elkport, where he conducts a substantial enterprise in the handling of furniture, lumber and builders' hardware. He was born at Ord, Valley county, Nebraska, on the 1st of April, 1883, and is a son of Prentice P. and Minnie (Voss) Gifford, the former of whom is deceased, having passed to the life eternal on the 31st of December, 1912, and the major part of his active career having been devoted to traveling and hotel business. His widow resides at Elkport. Of the three children the eldest is May B., who is the wife of Asa Kriebs, of Elkport; George L., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Harry W. is likewise a resident of Elkport. He whose name initiates this article gained his early education in the public schools, in which he continued his studies until he had completed the curriculum of the high school at Elkport. He then, at the age of eighteen years, began work as a carpenter's helper, and he received \$1.50 a day in compensation for his services. He became a skilled workman at the trade of carpenter and after being employed as a journeyman for a period of five years he engaged in business as a contractor and builder. He developed a large and prosperous enterprise, in connection with which he gave employment to a force varying from five to eight men, and in the meanwhile he maintained his residence and business headquarters at Elkport. Here he has, since his retirement from the contracting business, built up a most substantial enterprise in the handling of furniture, builders' hardware and lumber, and he is essentially one of the wide-awake business men and loyal and progressive citizens of Elkport. He has had no desire to enter the arena of practical politics or to seek public office, but he is giving most effective service as treasurer of the independent school district that has its interests centered at Elkport. On the 1st of March, 1905, Mr. Gifford married Miss Lizzie Ortmann, daughter of John and Mary Ortmann, well known citizens of Clayton county and both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Gifford have one son, Glenn, who was born March 25, 1913. At Colesburg, Iowa, Mr. Gifford is affiliated with Lodge No. 67, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

**Horatio L. Gifford** is a native son of Iowa and a representative of one of the early pioneer families of this state, within whose borders he has maintained his home continuously save for a period of about seven years, during which he was a resident of the state of New York. He is now conducting a well equipped meat market in the village of Volga and is one of the substantial business men and popular and influential citizens of this place. Mr. Gifford was born in Buchanan county, Iowa, on the 19th of August, 1855, and is a son of George L. and Clarinda (Quigley) Gifford, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Indiana. George L. Gifford came to Iowa in the year 1839 and entered claim to a tract of government land in Boardman township, Clayton county.

On this homestead he established his residence, as one of the very early pioneers of that county, and his first domicile was a log house of primitive order, with clapboard roof and with an old-time stone fireplace. In this little dwelling was maintained the family home for many years, after which a more pretentious residence was provided, and on this old homestead farm George L. Gifford and his wife passed the remainder of their earnest and industrious lives. Of their seven children only three are now living. Horatio L. Gifford was reared to the sturdy discipline of the pioneer farm and gained such educational advantages as were afforded in the common schools of the locality and period. He assisted in the work of his father's farm until he had attained to his legal majority, and for several years thereafter he conducted independent operations on a rented farm in his native county. After leaving the farm he was for five years engaged in the mercantile business at Mederville, Clayton county, and he then sold his stock and business and removed to Littleport, this county, where he conducted a hotel and incidentally continued also his operations as a farmer, for a period of twenty years. He then engaged in the general merchandise business at that place, but seven years later he sold out and removed with his family to Brooklyn, New York, where he continued his residence until 1913, when he returned to Clayton county, and established his present thriving business enterprise at Volga. Mr. Gifford is a Republican in politics; he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church; at Elkader he is affiliated with Elkader Lodge, No. 72, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; and at Littleport he is an active member of Camp No. 1723, of the Modern Woodmen of America, in which he has passed all of the official chairs. While a resident of Littleport he served three years in the office of justice of the peace. In 1878 Mr. Gifford wedded Miss May Voss, who was born and reared in Clayton county, and who passed to eternal rest in the year 1906. Of the four children of this union three died in infancy, and the one survivor, Elmer, is now cashier of the Littleport Savings Bank. In 1907 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gifford to Miss Emily Van Wynam, who was born in the state of New York, and they have three children, George L., Horace P., and Mildred L.

**Edward H. Gleason**, former member of the enterprising hardware firm of Gleason & Linder, of Volga, and concerning Laurence L. Linder, individual mention is made on other pages of this work. They in 1915, purchased the hardware stock and business of John Shields, and by their progressive policies, fair dealings and effective service to patrons materially expanded the scope of their business, the status of which gave them secure place as business men of the thriving little city of Volga. Mr. Gleason was born in the city of Omaha, Nebraska, on the 24th of August, 1890, and is a son of William and Barbara (Haering) Gleason. His father was born in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, of staunch New England stock, and the mother was born in Clayton county, Iowa, a member of a well known pioneer family. William Gleason was a skilled carpenter and builder and developed a substantial business as a con-

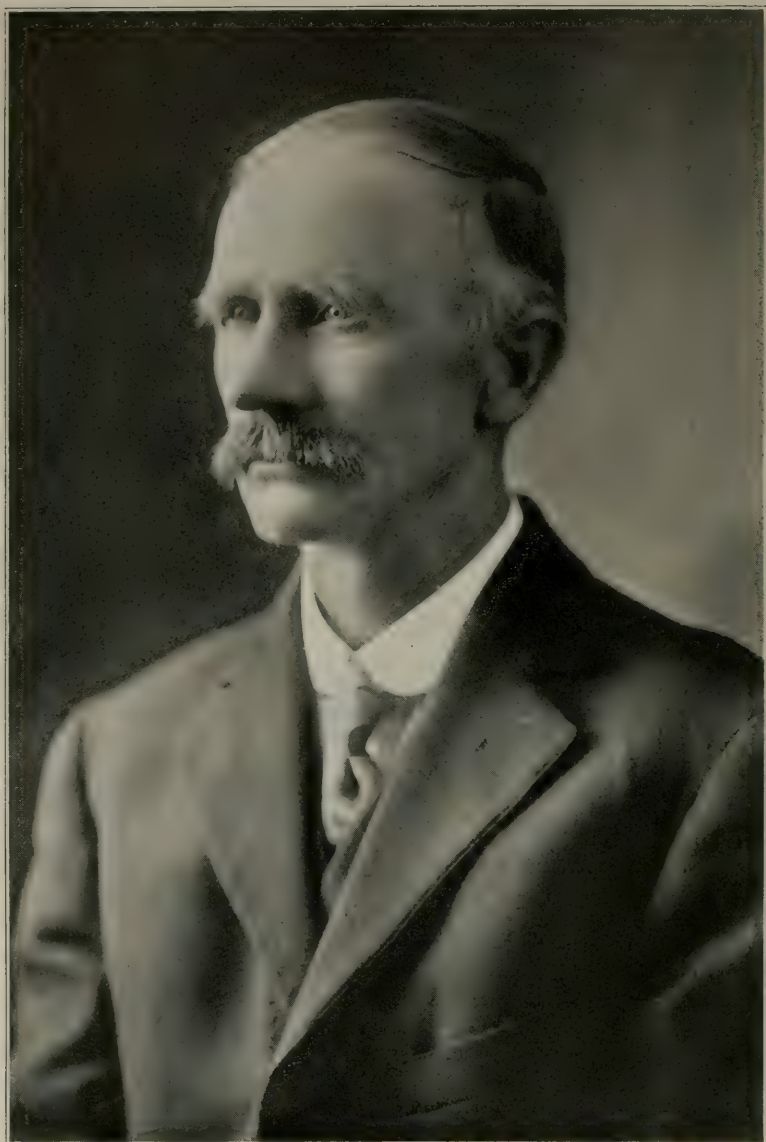
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E. O. GLESNE

tractor at his trade, both he and his wife having been residents of Strawberry Point at the time of their death. Of their three children the subject of this review is the eldest; and Lottie and Lulu, twins, reside at Strawberry Point, this county. He whose name initiates this article was a boy when he first came to Clayton county, and as a lad of thirteen years he here found employment on the farm of his maternal uncle, with whom he remained six years, the while he continued to avail himself of the advantages of the public schools. After leaving the farm he worked one year at the carpenter's trade, and he then engaged in the garage and automobile business in the city of Omaha for one year. Thereafter he maintained his residence at Waterloo, this state, until 1915, when he became associated with Laurence L. Linder in the business of handling standard lines of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, ranges, etc., the firm made a specialty of the installing of furnaces and other types of heating plants. On April 26th, 1916, Mr. Gleason withdrew from the business. Mr. Gleason is found aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. On the 9th of September, 1915, Mr. Gleason wedded Miss Clara Graesch, who was born, reared and educated in Clayton county, and they are popular young folk in the social activities of their home community.

**Even O. Glesne** is a scion of one of the sterling Scandinavian families that was founded in Clayton county in the early pioneer days, and the name which he bears has been honorably linked with the history of this county for more than sixty years, the while it has stood exponent of distinctive influence in connection with the development of the agricultural resources, and the furtherance of the civic prosperity of the county. He whose name introduces this article owns the old homestead farm on which he was born and also an adjoining tract of one hundred and sixty acres, his fine landed estate thus comprising three hundred and twenty acres and constituting one of the model farms of the county. In Wagner township, this county, Even O. Glesne was born on the 30th of September, 1857, and he is a son of Ole E. and Helgar (Sonstebj) Glesne, both of whom were born in Norway. Ole E. Glesne was reared and educated in his native land and came to America about the year 1853. He passed about one year at Rock Prairie, Wisconsin, and then came to Clayton county, and entered claim to a tract of government land in Wagner township. He lived up to the full tension of the pioneer activities in this section of the Hawkeye State and by his indefatigable industry and good management not only reclaimed his land to cultivation but also attained to substantial prosperity and to the ownership of a valuable landed domain of two hundred and eighty acres, in possession of much of which he continued until his death, which occurred May 20, 1914. He was one of the influential citizens and honored pioneers of the county and his name merits enduring place on the pages of its history. His widow still remains on the old homestead and is a devoted communicant of the Lutheran church, as was he likewise. Of the seven children Even O., of this review, is the eldest; John resides

at Elkader, the county seat; Riley and Jane are deceased; Tillie is the wife of John Johnson, of Wagner township; Christina is deceased; Ole is a clergyman of the Lutheran church and had pastoral charge at Aberdeen, South Dakota, but was called to the pastorate of the Lutheran church at Decorah, Ia., in 1916. Even O. Glesne early began to contribute his quota to the work of the home farm and in the meanwhile he availed himself fully of the advantages afforded in the pioneer schools, so that his environment was such as to cause him to wax strong in both mind and physique and to equip him effectively for the active duties and responsibilities of life. He continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-two years, when he went to Pembina county, North Dakota, where he took up a pre-emption claim and began the reclamation of the same. In due time he perfected his title to the land and developed a productive farm. There he continued his residence seven years, at the expiration of which he sold his farm and returned to his native county. Here he bought a farm, but he later disposed of the same, and in 1890 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Section 21, Wagner township, where he has since continued to give his attention to progressive and effective activities as a farmer and stock-grower, besides which he has added to his possessions by the purchase of one hundred and sixty acres of his father's old homestead estate. Mr. Glesne is known as one of the vigorous and steadfast exponents of these basic lines of industry in his native county; he is one of the loyal and public-spirited citizens of Wagner township. He has been called upon to serve as township trustee and also as treasurer of the school board of his district, and his political allegiance is given to the Republican party, both he and his wife being communicants of the Lutheran church. The family home is known for its generous hospitality and is eligibly situated about 6 miles distant from Elkader, the county seat, with mail service on Rural Route No. 3 from that city. The 17th of March, 1886, recorded the marriage of Mr. Glesne to Miss Bergit Peterson, her personal name being the Norwegian equivalent of the English Betsey. She was born and reared in Clayton county and is a daughter of Torkel and Gunnell (Knudson) Peterson, both natives of Norway, whence they immigrated to the United States in 1849, settlement being first made in Wisconsin, from which State they came to Iowa and numbered themselves among the pioneers of Clayton county, where Mrs. Peterson died half a century ago and where her husband continued to reside until his death, which occurred September 3, 1899. Of their children the eldest is Annie, who is the widow of Ole Severson and who maintains her home in Kansas; Ingeborg died on the 23d of March, 1916; Gunnell is the wife of Anulf Steenson and they reside in North Dakota; Peter is deceased; Carrie is the widow of Chris Everson and maintains her home in Wisconsin; Bergit is the wife of the subject of this sketch; Knute resides in North Dakota and his twin brother died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Glesne became the parents of five children, Gustava Henrietta, Edwin Benoni, Oscar Theodore, and



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PETER B. GREEN

Elvira and Elvina, twins. All of the children are living except Elvina, who died in infancy.

**Peter B. Green** was born on the 5th of June, 1853, and passed his entire life in the State of Iowa, where he rose to prominence and large prosperity as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county and where he was the owner of a valuable landed estate, which his widow still retains in her possession and to the management of which she gives careful and judicious supervision. Mrs. Green resides on the finely improved homestead farm, eligibly situated in Sperry township, about one mile distant from the village of Volga, and she is the owner of a valuable estate of two hundred and sixty-seven acres, the homestead place being endeared to her by the gracious memories and associations of the past and being valued the more by her because it figured as the stage of the earnest and successful labors of her honored husband. Peter B. Green was a resident of Clayton county from his infancy until the time of his death, which occurred on the 27th of March, 1900, and his character and achievement were such as to cause his memory to be honored by all who knew him, his remains being laid to rest in the cemetery at Volga. He was a loyal citizen, a progressive and reliable business man, a staunch advocate of the cause of the Republican party and an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which his widow still continues to be actively concerned and of which she is a devoted adherent. Mr. Green was adopted in infancy by Daniel and Hartley (Brown) Green, whose marriage was solemnized in Cambridgeshire, England, on the 21st of June, 1840, both having been born and reared in that fair county of merrie old England. Daniel Green was born at Wittlesea, Cambridgeshire, on the 22d of December, 1818, and was there reared and educated. After their marriage he and his wife continued their residence in their native land for somewhat more than a decade, and on the 4th of April, 1852, they severed the cherished ties and set sail for America. In 1854 they became pioneer settlers in Clayton county, Iowa, where Mr. Green secured a tract of wild land and developed a productive farm, both he and his wife having passed the remainder of their lives as well known and highly honored citizens of this county. They had no children of their own but gave to their adopted son, the subject of this memoir, the true love and solicitude of actual parentage. Peter B. Green was afforded the advantages of the public schools and virtually his entire active career was marked by close and successful association with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing, through the medium of which he gained substantial and enduring independence and prosperity, the concrete evidence thereof being given in the finely improved landed estate still owned by his widow. He purchased the homestead now occupied by Mrs. Green shortly after their marriage, and here he continued his well ordered activities until death set its seal upon him. On the 12th of October, 1872, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Green to Miss Lydia E. Sherman, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of Joseph and Jane (Moon) Sherman,



of whose ten children six are now living. The parents were born and reared in the state of New York and were numbered among the pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, where they established their home on a farm and where they passed the residue of their long and useful lives, their names meriting enduring place on the roll of the honored pioneers of Clayton county. Mr. and Mrs. Green became the parents of three children, all of whom survive the honored father: William is now a resident of the state of Wisconsin; Walter has a farm in Sperry township near the city Volga, and Valeria is the wife of Otto Germar, of whom individual mention is made elsewhere in this publication.

**David G. Griffith** was a resident of Clayton county for about thirty years and gained prestige as one of the able and successful representatives of the newspaper business in the Hawkeye state. At the time of his death he was associated with his only son in the editing and publishing of the Elkader Register and Argus, which represents a consolidation, in September, 1907, of the Elkader Register and the Elkader Argus. Of the former paper he had long been editor and publisher, and he had made it an effective exponent of local interests as well as a safe and able leader of popular sentiment. He was a man of strong intellectual powers and sterling character, one of the leading citizens of Elkader, commanding an impregnable place in popular confidence and esteem, and his high standing in this county makes it imperative, as a matter of historical consistency and just deserts, that in this publication be entered a tribute to his memory and a brief record of his career. David Golden Griffith was born at Mohawk, Herkimer county, New York, on the 17th of October, 1845, and was a son of Ira and Nancy (Golden) Griffith. Ira Griffith, who was engaged in the hotel business during much of his active career, was a son of Jesse Griffith, and the latter was a son of William Griffith, Jr., who was a member of the New York Rangers during the war of the Revolution, his birth having occurred in 1762, and he having been a resident of Worcester, New York, at the time of his death, on the 9th of October, 1838; his father, Captain William Griffith, was an officer of the Continental army in the war of the Revolution. Mrs. Nancy (Golden) Griffith was a daughter of John Golden, and her maternal grandfather, James Eaton, was, with his family, among the few survivors of the historic Indian massacre at Wyoming, Pennsylvania. David G. Griffith was the only child of his parents, and after the death of his mother his father contracted a second marriage, the one child of this union being a daughter Frances, who became the wife of Rensaeller D. Hubbard, of Mankato, Minnesota. David Golden Griffith was not yet nine years old at the time of his mother's death and thereafter he lived mainly with her kinsfolk, at Utica, New York, until the autumn of 1861. In the meanwhile he profited fully by the advantages afforded in the Utica schools and there had finally entered upon a practical apprenticeship to the printer's trade. On the 25th of October, 1861, about two weeks after he had celebrated his sixteenth birthday anniversary, he enlisted for service as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war. He became a private



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in Company M, Second New York Artillery, his enlistment having been for "three years or during the war," and in November, 1863, he re-enlisted as a veteran volunteer, his service continuing until he received his honorable discharge on the 15th of October, 1865. His regiment was a part of the Army of the Potomac and saw much severe service. It was attached to the First Brigade of the First Division of the Second Army Corps, under command of General Hancock, and the famous Irish Brigade likewise formed a part of this gallant corps, while the division was in command of General Nelson A. Miles. The Second New York Artillery ranked eighth in the number of its losses in the war. Of the original Company M with which Mr. Griffith went to the front, he was one of only five that returned at the close of the long conflict, and he held commission as second lieutenant of his company at the time when he was mustered out. At the time when Manassas Junction was captured by General Stonewall Jackson's corps, Mr. Griffith was captured, but, with other enlisted men, he was paroled on the field of the second battle of Bull Run. After passing three months in the parole camp at Annapolis, Maryland, he was exchanged, whereupon he promptly rejoined his regiment. He served in the battles and minor engagements from Spottsylvania to Petersburg, and at the latter place, on the night of June 16, 1864, he was so severely wounded that he was sent to the north for proper treatment and care. In the following November he rejoined his regiment, with which he served during the final campaigns against the forces of General Lee. At Burksville Station, after Lee's surrender, he commanded the guard having in charge the artillery surrendered by the great Confederate leader. He was mustered out October 15, 1865, two days prior to his twentieth birthday anniversary. Soon after the close of his gallant career as a youthful soldier of the Union Mr. Griffith entered the office of the Utica Morning Herald for the purpose of completing his apprenticeship as a printer. He continued his services in newspaper offices at Utica, New York, until April, 1870, when he came to Iowa and established his residence in the village then known as Buffalo Grove, near the present town of Aurora, Buchanan county. There, on the 14th of December, 1870, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Mary A. Carpenter, who was born at Trenton Falls, New York, on the 6th of February, 1845. One of her brothers had been a former comrade and tent-mate of Mr. Griffith in the army and had sacrificed his life to his country. After his marriage Mr. Griffith worked at his trade in Dubuque and Chicago, and from the latter city he returned, in 1872, to Dubuque, where he retained a position on the Daily Herald until August 1, 1880, when he came to Clayton county and established his permanent home at Elkader, where he had shortly before purchased an interest in the Elkader Register. In the control of this paper he was associated with George A. Fairfield until January 1, 1893, when Mr. Fairfield retired from the partnership and was succeeded by Harry L. Griffith, the only child of the subject of this memoir, who has continued the business since the death of his father and concerning whom individual mention is made on

other pages of this publication. David G. Griffith filled a large place in the community life of Elkader and Clayton county and was splendidly influential not only through the medium of his excellent paper but also in a direct personal way. For many years he gave his allegiance to the Democratic party, but in the later period of his life he was aligned with the Republican party. He served three terms as mayor of Elkader and was postmaster of this place during the first administration of President Cleveland. He was always active and influential in public affairs in Elkader and the county. He held membership in the Baptist church, and in the time-honored Masonic fraternity his affiliations were with Elkader Lodge No. 72, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons; Harmony Chapter No. 41, Royal Arch Masons; and DeMolay Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, at Clinton, this state, in which last he received the thirty-second degree. He was identified also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and other fraternal organizations, the while he was a specially appreciative and honored member of E. Boardman Post, No. 187, Grand Army of the Republic, through the medium of which he manifested his abiding interest in his old comrades in arms. It has already been stated that Mrs. Griffith was born at Trenton Falls, New York, and it may further be noted that she is a daughter of Bradford James Carpenter and Jane Laura (Jones) Carpenter, the former of whom was born at Richford, Vermont, September 25, 1807, and the latter of whom was born at Troy, New York, on the 4th of January, 1807, their marriage having been solemnized at Berkshire, Vermont, on the 2d of April, 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter passed the closing years of their lives at Arlington, Fayette county, Iowa, where his death occurred July 23, 1881. Of their four children who attained to maturity Lorin D. and Charles W., both of whom were soldiers in the Civil war, are now deceased, as is also Sarah B., the one surviving child, besides Mrs. Griffith, being Homer R., a resident of Atlantic, Iowa. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Griffith has continued to reside at Elkader, a place that is endeared to her by the hallowed memories and association of the past and in which community she is held in affectionate regard by all who know her.

**Harry L. Griffith.**—As editor and publisher of the Elkader Register and Argus, Mr. Griffith is well upholding the journalistic prestige here maintained for many years by his honored father, the late David B. Griffith, to whom a memoir is dedicated on other pages of this work, so that further review of his career and the family history is not demanded in the present connection. Harry Llewellyn Griffith was born at Buffalo Grove, near Aurora, Buchanan county, Iowa, on the 22d of October, 1872, and is the only child of David G. and Mary Anne (Carpenter) Griffith. He was a lad of eight years at the time when the family home was established at Elkader, and after his graduation in the Elkader high school, as a member of the class of 1889, he was a student in the University of Wisconsin about two years. Thereafter he worked at electrical engineering until 1895, and during a portion of this

time he prosecuted advanced technical study in the Drexel Institute, in the city of Philadelphia. On the 1st of January, 1893, he purchased an interest in his father's paper, the Elkader Register, and became a member of the firm of D. G. Griffith & Son, though he did not assume an active connection with the business until 1895, when, on account of impaired health, he returned to the parental home and incidentally assumed the business management of the paper of which he has maintained the ownership and control since the death of his father, on the 27th of August, 1910. In September, 1907, was effected a consolidation of the Elkader Register and the Elkader Argus, and both names are retained in the present publication, which is the leading paper of Clayton county, both the newspaper and job departments of the office being of excellent modern equipment and facilities. Though he is registered as a Republican, Mr. Griffith is in a political way independent in his attitude and makes his paper stand representative of the same policy. He is affiliated with Elkader Lodge No. 72, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons; Harmony Chapter No. 41, Royal Arch Masons, and has received the thirty-second degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Masonry, in De Molay Consistory, at Clinton, this state, besides which he holds membership in the Elkader camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. June 16, 1896, recorded the marriage of Mr. Griffith to Miss Flora May Lothrop, of Dubuque, and she passed to the life eternal on the 18th of March of the following year. At Fayette, Iowa, on the 1st of January, 1907, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Griffith to Miss Abbie Helen Grannis, and they have four children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here entered: Helen Katherine, August 16, 1908; Mary Golden, October 20, 1910; and David Grannis and Harold Sherman, twins, June 15, 1912. Mrs. Griffith was born at Grannis Mills, Fayette county, Iowa, on the 28th of December, 1883, and she received excellent educational advantages, including a course in the music and art department of Upper Iowa University, at Fayette, in which she was graduated. She is the youngest daughter of Henry J. and Abigail Caroline (Hubbell) Grannis, and her mother was a lineal descendant of Roger Sherman, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Henry James Grannis was born near North Liberty, St. Joseph county, Indiana, July 18, 1841, and he died at Fayette, Iowa, October 13, 1907. His parents, John and Rhoda (Bennett) Grannis, removed from the state of New York and became pioneer settlers in Indiana, he having been the next to the youngest of seven children, of whom five attained to years of maturity. In 1860 Henry J. Grannis accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa and the family settled at Fayette, where he attended Upper Iowa University until September 15, 1861, when he enlisted in Company C, Twelfth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, known as the "University Recruits." By the young ladies of the university Mr. Grannis was selected as color bearer of his company, to which they had presented a flag, and later the company became the color company of the regiment, Mr. Grannis having had the distinction of bearing the colors for his regiment until he received



his honorable discharge, on the 20th of January, 1866. He took part in the capture of Fort Henry, and his flag was the first on the ramparts of Fort Donnelson, February 15, 1862. At Shiloh, after being under fire from 9 a. m. to 5:45 p. m., he was captured in that famous "Hornets' Nest" that did so much to save the day from absolute disaster. Taken as a prisoner of war to Montgomery, Alabama, he was there held five weeks, being then transferred to Macon, Georgia, where he remained until October 11, 1862, when he was paroled, his exchange having been effected on the 10th of the following month. In December he rejoined his regiment and resumed his post as color bearer. He participated in the battle of Jackson, Mississippi, May 14, 1863, and in the siege of Vicksburg, where he took part in all important engagements until June 22d, when his regiment was sent to Black River to guard the rear from attack by the forces under General Johnston. After the expiration of his original term of enlistment Mr. Grannis, on the 25th of December, 1863, re-enlisted as a veteran volunteer, continuing as color sergeant and taking part in the battles of Tupelo, Mississippi, and Nashville, Tennessee, the expedition against Mobile and the siege of Spanish Fort. In his service he carried the colors in every important battle in which his regiment was engaged—twenty-three in all—and was under Confederate fire one hundred and twelve days. He carried the colors also on the march for a distance of 2,670 miles, and by water and land transportation traveled 13,809 miles. Consistently may be ventured the statement that this record was equaled by that of no other color bearer in the Union service. In several engagements the colors were riddled in Mr. Grannis' hands. On one occasion every guard was killed or wounded, yet, strange to say, he never received a scratch or suffered the flag to go from his hands except at the time when he was captured. That the flag was always to the front and carried with greatest gallantry every official report from the regiment testified, for every one of the reports makes special mention of "our gallant color bearer." On the 22d of November, 1865, Mr. Grannis was commissioned first lieutenant, but he never mustered as such, as he chose the colors rather than promotion.

**Halsten S. Groth** is the fortunate owner of one of the finely improved farm properties of his native county, the same comprising two hundred acres of fertile land in Section 7, Marion township, and including the old homestead place on which he was born, the date of his nativity having been May 19, 1861. Mr. Groth has here been actively concerned with progressive operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower during the entire course of his adult career, and he is distinctively to be designated one of the enterprising, successful and representative farmers of the county, with secure place in popular confidence and good will, thus nullifying any application of the scriptural aphorism that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country." Mr. Groth is a son of Sven and Birget (Öin) Groth, both natives of Norway. The father was a young man at the time of his emigration to America and after remaining two years in Wisconsin he came to Clayton county and became one

of the pioneer settlers of Marion township. Here, by energy and good business policies, he achieved large and worthy success as a farmer, and at the time of his death he was the owner of the substantial estate of two hundred acres that is now in the possession of his son Halsten S., of this review. Sven Groth, a man of unqualified integrity and honor, passed to eternal rest on the 3d of September, 1881, a zealous communicant of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as is also his venerable widow, who remains on the old homestead with their eldest child, subject of this sketch, and who celebrated in 1916 her eighty-fifth birthday anniversary. The second child, Helgrim, is a resident of Hebron, North Dakota; Rachel resides at Broadview, Montana; Barbo is deceased; Kittil and Bertin maintain their home at Maple, Cass county, North Dakota; Olena is the wife of Kittel Esk, of Finley, Steele county, that state; and the other five children died young. In the public schools of Clayton county Halsten S. Groth continued his studies until he had availed himself of the advantages of the high school at Elgin, and upon attaining to his legal majority he assumed, in the interest of his widowed mother, the active supervision of the home farm. About two years later he rented the place, and after the lapse of another year he purchased the interests of the other heirs and came into sole possession of the valuable property, upon which he has since made the best of modern improvements, including the erection of an attractive and commodious frame house of two stories and substantial and well equipped barns. He has also installed on the farm a silo that has a capacity of one hundred tons, and he brings to bear in his operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower the most approved of modern policies and facilities, with the result that his success has been of substantial and unequivocal order. He is a director of the Farmers' Dairy Company at Elgin, this county; is president of the Gunder & Clermont Telephone Company, is serving with marked loyalty and efficiency as township trustee, and is essentially one of the popular and influential citizens of his native county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he and his wife are earnest communicants and liberal supporters of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Their attractive home receives mail service on rural route No. 4 from the village of Elgin. On the 24th of May, 1888, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Groth to Miss Helen Skarshang, who was born and reared in this county, and of the five children of this union the eldest is Jessie Benora, who is the wife of Jens Halverson, their residence being in the state of Minnesota; Selmer likewise resides in that state; and Harry, Alma Sophia, and Arthur remain at the parental home.

**John Groth** is one of the venerable and honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county, where he has maintained his home for more than sixty years and where he has contributed his full quota to civic and industrial development and progress. He and his wife still reside on their fine old homestead farm, in Section 8, Marion township, and they have the high regard of all who know them, both having long been zealous and influential communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Their attractive home now has mani-

fold advantages that were notable for their absence in the pioneer days, and not the least is the free mail service afforded by rural route No. 4 from the village of Elgin. Mr. Groth was born in Norway, on the 19th of December, 1833, and is now the only survivor of the nine children of Halsten and Ragnild (Kittleson) Groth, who passed their entire lives in their native land, the subject of this review having been the youngest of their children. Mr. Groth gained his early education in the schools of his native land and was a youth of eighteen years when, in April, 1852, he embarked on the sailing vessel that gave him transportation to America. He landed in the port of New York City and thence came directly to Iowa, where he numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Marion township. He purchased one hundred and ninety acres of land, in Section 8, and from the same he developed the well improved farm that now constitutes his home. He has won independence and definite prosperity through his own well ordered labors and enterprise and has long been numbered among the substantial exponents of agricultural and livestock industry in Clayton county, the while he has at no time failed to live up to the varied duties and responsibilities of loyal citizenship. He has had no ambition for public office, but is a stalwart supporter of the principles of the Republican party. On the 16th of January, 1862, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Groth to Miss Guri Tollefson, likewise a native of Norway, and eleven children were born of this union. Halsten, the firstborn, died in childhood; Sarah remains at the parental home; Rachel is deceased; Halsten (second of the name) is associated in the work and management of the old homestead farm; Tollef resides in the village of Elgin; Sophia and Kittle are deceased; Louis is a resident of Elgin, Fayette county; Sophia and Martin are still members of the parental home circle; and the youngest child, a son, died at birth.

**Wilford E. Gruver**, the efficient and popular cashier of the Clayton Savings Bank and the valued incumbent of the offices of treasurer of Clayton corporation and of the school district in which the village of Clayton is situated, is a native son of the Hawkeye state and is a scion of the third generation of both the paternal and maternal families in Iowa, with the civic and material history of which commonwealth the names of the respective families have been long and worthily identified. Mr. Gruver holds precedence as one of the representative young business men and loyal and public-spirited citizens of Clayton county, has a secure place in popular esteem and is well entitled to recognition in this publication. He was born at West Union, Fayette county, Iowa, on the 5th of November, 1890, and is a son of Benton C. and Amazet (Burke) Gruver, both of whom were likewise born in this state, where their parents settled in the early pioneer days. The father of the subject of this review has given the major part of his active career to agricultural pursuits and still maintains his residence in Fayette county, his devoted wife having been summoned to eternal rest in 1913 and being survived by all of their eight children. Wilford E. Gruver supplemented the advantages which he received



in the public schools of his native county by taking an effective course in a business college in the city of Cedar Rapids. Soon after having thus fortified himself he assumed a clerical position in a bank at West Branch, Cedar county, and two years later he was promoted to the position of assistant cashier of the institution. About two and a half years later he resigned this office and became cashier of a bank at Beaver Creek, Minnesota, where he remained one year. He then resigned his position and came to Clayton county, where he has served as cashier of the Clayton Savings Bank since 1915, and where he has made an admirable record in the executive management of this substantial and popular financial institution of the county. He is treasurer of his school district. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and at West Branch, Cedar county, he still retains affiliation with Wapsinonock Lodge, No. 381, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is popular in the representative social life of the community. On June 8th, 1916, he married Katharine Richards, of McGregor, whose father, F. S. Richards, is cashier of the First National Bank, of McGregor.

John P. Habermann has shown the progressiveness, industry and mature judgment that significantly mark the sterling race from which he is sprung and which has contributed a most valuable element to the complex social fabric of our great American republic. Mr. Habermann is now one of the representative business men and honored and influential citizens of the village of Osterdock, Clayton county, and is well entitled to recognition in this history of his home county. He was born in the beautiful Rhine Province of Germany, on the 16th of November, 1875, and was a lad of eight years when he accompanied his parents, John P. and Catherine (Lortcher) Habermann, upon their immigration from their native province to the United States, in 1884. The family home was first established at Tama, the judicial center of the Iowa county of the same name, but one year later removal was made to Sioux City, this state. In 1893 the parents removed from that city to Cassville, Wisconsin, where the father now lives retired and where the devoted wife and mother passed to eternal rest in the year 1912, both having become zealous communicants of the Catholic church when they were young. John P. Habermann, Sr., entered fully into the spirit of American institutions and as soon as possible became a naturalized citizen, whereupon he espoused the cause of the Democratic party, in the ranks of which he has since been staunchly aligned. The eldest of the children is Mary, who is the wife of Anthony Dressen, of Harrison, Idaho; the subject of this sketch was the next in order of birth; Margaret resides in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Frances is the wife of John Moore, of Turkey River, Clayton county; Elizabeth is the widow of Edward Carter and maintains her home at Mandan, North Dakota; Frank is a resident of Dubuque, Iowa; and Matthew and Josephine remain with their father at Cassville, Wisconsin. John P. Habermann, Jr., the immediate subject of this review, gained his early education principally in the public schools of Sioux City, and as a youth he

was there employed for a time in a bottling establishment. He was about eighteen years old when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Cassville, Grant county, Wisconsin, and there he served a thorough apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade, to which sturdy vocation he gave his energies for the long period of twenty-two years, during the last seven of which he conducted a blacksmith shop at Osterdock, Iowa, his present place of residence. Mr. Habermann gave significant evidence of his loyalty when the Spanish-American war had its inception. He was at the time a resident of Cassville, Wisconsin, and in June, 1898, he enlisted as a member of Company M, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was with his regiment in active service in both Cuba and Porto Rico, and with the command received his honorable discharge in the month of January, 1899. Mr. Habermann has maintained his home at Osterdock since 1905 and here he now owns and conducts a well appointed and popular restaurant and confectionery store. He has served as mayor of the village, is at the present time a valued and progressive members of the village council, his political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, he is affiliated with the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin and the Spanish-American War Veterans, and both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. On the 12th of November, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Habermann to Miss Christine Eckstein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Eckstein, of Cassville, Wisconsin, and the five children of this union all remain at the parental home, namely: Adele, Margaret, Hans, Rose and Ethel.

**John Louis Hagensick** has been a resident of the Hawkeye state from the time of his birth, is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Iowa and is now one of the substantial farmers and influential citizens of Read township, with secure place in the confidence and good will of the community. He was born in Ceres, this state, on the 30th of December, 1874, and is a member of a family of twelve children, all of whom are living. His parents, John M. and Margaret (Winch) Hagensick, were born and reared in Germany and soon after coming to America they became pioneer settlers in Iowa, in 1854. The father was a blacksmith by trade and he continued his active association with the work of his trade until 1860, when he engaged in the general merchandise business in the little village of Ceres, Clayton county, where also he was appointed postmaster under the administration of President Lincoln. He was one of the most honored and influential citizens of his community and it is specially interesting to record that he continued the incumbent of the office of postmaster for the long period of thirty-four years, his retirement having taken place in 1894 and his death having occurred in September, 1897, his devoted wife having preceded him to eternal rest and both having been zealous members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He was affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and took deep interest in the affairs of these organizations. John Louis Hagensick acquired his early education in the public schools of Clayton county and as a lad of eleven years he became a member



of the home circle of one of his uncles who was a farmer in this county. He assisted his uncle in the work and management of the farm for a period of thirteen years and he then married and established his residence on a farm which he rented for the ensuing five years. At the expiration of this period he purchased his present well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Section 33, Read township, where also he owns an additional tract of ten acres of timber land. He is one of the progressive and energetic farmers and stock-growers of Clayton county and substantial success is attending his well ordered endeavors, the while he may well take pride in the excellent improvements and general air of thrift which mark his farm as one of the model places of Read township. He is a Republican in politics, is serving at the time of this writing, in 1916, as treasurer of the school board of his district, and both he and his wife are members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. In the year 1901, March 27, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hagensick to Miss Freda Diers, who was born and reared in Read township, and who is one of the four surviving children of Frederick W. and Margaret (Schneider) Diers, who were children at the time of the immigration of their parents to America and who now reside upon their fine homestead farm in Read township. Mr. and Mrs. Hagensick have four children, whose names and birth dates are here noted: Ada M., February 8, 1903; Amos F., July 11, 1905; Milton H., July 27, 1908, and Lloyd A., October 23, 1913.

**Philip B. Haid** has been a resident of Clayton county since 1903 and is one of the prominent and influential citizens of North Buena Vista, where he has served with characteristic efficiency as mayor and as justice of the peace and where he held for two terms the office of village assessor. He is a stalwart in the ranks of the Republican party and has been an effective advocate of its principles and policies, the while his loyalty to the party is intensified by the cause which it virtually represented during the climacteric period of the Civil War, in which he served as a valiant soldier of the Union. Many years later his undiminished loyalty and patriotism were shown by his effective service as a soldier in the Spanish-American war. Mr. Haid was born in New York, on the 3d of August, 1845, and his education included a course in the great University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. After the close of the war he maintained his residence in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, for a term of years, and he has been a resident of Clayton county since June 3, 1903. He is a communicant of the Catholic church and one of the most popular men of the southeast part of Clayton county.

**Ernest Haltmeyer** is of the younger generation of a family whose name first became identified with Clayton county in the early pioneer days, and in his native county he has achieved individual success and prestige as an agriculturist and progressive citizen, with character and accomplishments that have given him impregnable vantage-ground in popular confidence and esteem. He and his family reside in the village of Farmersburg, and their attractive home is known for its generous hospitality. Mr. Halt-



meyer was born on a farm near the city of McGregor, this county, and the date of his nativity was June 27, 1880. He is the second in order of birth of the three children of John and Barbara (Eide-miller) Haltmeyer, the former of whom was born in Austria and the latter in the state of Pennsylvania. Of the three children the eldest is Lydia, who is the wife of William F. Linderman, of this county, and the youngest is Emma, who is the wife of Henry Brallmeier, of McGregor. John Haltmeyer first made his appearance in Clayton county, Iowa, in 1855, when this section was little more than an untrammelled wilderness, and later he went to Minnesota, where he maintained his residence for a term of years. In 1874 he became the owner of a farm near McGregor, this county, and here he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in 1897. He was a substantial and influential citizen of his community and served for some time in the office of road supervisor. His first wife, whose maiden name was Susana Volgenant, was comparatively a young woman at the time of her death, and is survived by four children—Emily, who resides at McGregor and who is the widow of George Leibrand; Herman, who maintains his home at South McGregor; John, who is a resident of Manchester, Delaware county, this State; and Flora, who is the wife of John Dehn, of Clayton. The second wife of John Haltmeyer survives him and now maintains her home at McGregor. Ernest Haltmeyer, the immediate subject of this review, acquired his early education in the public schools of Clayton county, and his independent career as a youth was marked not only by his work as a farm employe but also by effective activity as a stone mason and plasterer, to which lines of enterprise he still gives his attention in a successful way. He is a well-fortified supporter of the principles of the Democratic party and is now serving as a member of the Farmersburg board of education. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, and in 1916 is serving as venerable council in his camp of the Woodmen of the World. On the 27th of February, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Haltmeyer to Miss Christina Drallmeier, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county and who is a daughter of William and Mary (Mandelkow) Drallmeier, who were born in Germany and who became residents of Clayton county in the pioneer days. Mr. and Mrs. Haltmeyer became the parents of four children, of whom the third, Mabel, died in childhood. Edna, Irving and Irene are at the parental home.

**Arthur Hamann.**—One of the modern and thoroughly equipped business establishments of the thriving little city of Guttenberg is that of the firm of Hamann & Staack, dealers in automobiles and owners of a substantial garage and automobile accessories business. The firm has the local agency for the standard Buick, Oldsmobile and Cadillac automobiles, and in the large garage and repair shop, a building fifty by one hundred feet in dimensions, the best of accommodations and facilities are provided for the carrying on of the prosperous business which had its inception in the autumn of 1912. He whose name initiates this paragraph is the

senior member of this popular firm of progressive young business men, and for this reason, as well as on account of his being a native son of Clayton county and a representative of a sterling pioneer family, he is specially eligible for recognition in this publication. Mr. Hamann was born on the old homestead farm of his parents, in Farmersburg township, four and one-half miles north of Garnavillo, and the date of his nativity was September 27, 1888. He is a son of Herman and Elizabeth (Koss) Hamann, the former of whom was born near Clayton Center, this county, and the latter in Garnavillo township, the respective families, of staunch German lineage, having been founded in this county in the early pioneer days. Herman Hamann was reared and educated in Clayton county and has long been a successful and influential exponent of agricultural and live-stock industry, both he and his wife still maintaining their residence on their fine old homestead farm in Farmersburg township, and both being active communicants of the German Lutheran church, the political allegiance of Mr. Hamann being given to the Democratic party. Of the children, the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, and the eldest is Glendor, who is a progressive farmer of Farmersburg township; Laura is the wife of Albert Schlake, of Garnavillo township; and Herman, Jr., remains at the parental home and is associated with his father in the management of the farm. Arthur Hamann continued his studies in the public schools until he had availed himself of the advantages of the high school at Garnavillo, and thereafter he took a course in mechanical engineering as a student in the great University of Wisconsin, at Madison. The technical knowledge thus gained has splendidly equipped him for the business of which he is now a successful representative, and after leaving the university he was for some time employed in an automobile garage in the city of Omaha, Nebraska, where he also fortified himself still further by attending an automobile school. After his return to Clayton county he assisted in the work of his father's farm for a year, and then, in 1912, became associated with Arthur H. Staack in founding their present representative business enterprise, the original establishment of the firm of Hamann & Staack having been a building twenty-five by fifty feet in dimensions, and the two principals having personally handled all the repair work until the business so increased in scope and importance as to justify the employment of skilled assistants, the establishment of the firm now giving employment to six competent assistants. Mr. Hamann is a Democrat in politics, is affiliated with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, and he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. Of his business associate, Mr. Staack, individual mention is made on other pages of this work. On the 15th of May, 1912, Mr. Hamann wedded Miss Alma Schlake, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Wilker) Schlake, of Garnavillo township. Mr. and Mrs. Hamann have two children—Dolores, who was born January 31, 1913, and Alo, who was born December 10, 1915.



**Herman C. A. Hamann** is a well-known and highly esteemed member of a family that has given its due quota of able and honored representatives to the furtherance of the development of agricultural resources in Clayton county and to maintaining in the present generation the high standard of this great and basic industry in the county. His father became a resident of Clayton county sixty years ago and during the long intervening period the family name has been closely and worthily linked with the social, industrial and civic activities of this favored section of the Hawkeye state. Herman C. A. Hamann, one of the vigorous and representative farmers of Farmersburg township, was born on the old home farm of his parents, in Read township, this county, and the date of his nativity was March 10, 1862. He is a son of August and Minnie (Rumpf) Hamann, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, though their marriage was solemnized in America. August Hamann immigrated to the United States in 1857, in which year he became a resident of Clayton county, where he found employment as a farm hand, as his financial resources were very limited and he was dependent upon his own exertions in making his way to the goal of independence and prosperity. Here he finally rented a farm, but after operating the same three years he removed to Minnesota, where he purchased a farm. Three years later, however, he sold this property and returned to Clayton county, where, in the year 1869, he purchased the fine farm of three hundred and ten acres that is now owned and operated by his son Herman, the subject of this sketch. He still lives in Farmersburg township, as one of its most venerable and honored pioneer citizens, and the wife of his youth passed to eternal rest in 1870, Herman C. A. being one of three children, and another of the number being Otto F. W., of whom individual mention is made on other pages. After duly profiting by the advantages afforded in the schools of his native county Herman C. A. Hamann continued to remain at the parental home and to lend his aid in the work of the farm until he attained to his legal majority, when he purchased a farm in Farmersburg township and gave his attention to its cultivation and improvement during the ensuing four years. He then sold the property to advantage and purchased his present farm, situated in Sections 35 and 36 Farmersburg township. In connection with well directed operations as an agriculturist Mr. Hamann has specialized and made a distinctive success in the breeding and raising of fine livestock, including horses, cattle, sheep and swine, and every detail of his farm enterprise receives his effective and punctilious supervision, so that his farm gives unmistakable assurances of general thrift and prosperity. Mr. Hamann is aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and while he has shown a loyal interest in community affairs, he has had no ambition for public office. He proved, however, a most zealous and efficient member of the school board of his district during a service of fifteen years in the office of school director. Both he and his wife are earnest and valued members of the Lutheran church at St. Olaf, and he is a member of its board of trustees. In April, 1886, was



solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hamann to Miss Elizabeth Koss, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Wilke) Koss, who was born in Garnavillo township, this county, where her parents established their home soon after their emigration from Germany to the United States, in the '50s, and where they passed the remainder of their lives, their five children still surviving them. Mr. and Mrs. Hamann have four children, who in their generation are well upholding the honors of the family name: Glender F. is a prosperous farmer of Farmersburg township; Arthur O. is engaged in the garage and automobile business at Guttenberg, this county; Laura M. is the wife of Albert Schalke of this county; and Herman A., who remains at the parental home, is a graduate of the high school at Garnavillo.

**Otto F. W. Hamann** was born in Farmersburg township, this county, on the 4th of June, 1867, and is a son of August and Minnie (Rumpf) Hamann, honored pioneers of whom adequate mention is made in the sketch of their older son, Herman C. A. Hamann, on other pages of this work, so that a repetition of the data is not demanded in the present article. He whose name introduces this paragraph was reared to the invigorating and benignant discipline of the home farm, profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality and period. Soon after attaining to his legal majority he married and initiated his independent career as a farmer. He showed his ambition and self-confidence by purchasing the fine homestead place of two hundred and seventy acres, upon which he now resides and upon which he has made the best of modern improvements. The farm, given over to well-ordered operations in diversified agriculture and the raising of good grades of livestock, is situated in Section 25, Farmersburg township, and in addition to this property Mr. Hamann also owns another tract of eighty acres in Clayton township. He is a director of the Garnavillo Livestock Commission Co., is a Democrat in his political proclivities and has served continuously since 1904 as secretary of the school board of his district. Both he and his wife are members and liberal supporters of the Lutheran church. In the year 1890 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hamann to Miss Anna Neubauer, who was born and reared in Germany and who was seventeen years of age at the time of the family immigration to America, in 1883, when her parents, William and Anna (Ortman) Neubauer, established their home on a farm in Clayton county, where they passed the remainder of their lives, their two children surviving them. Mr. and Mrs. Hamann have six children: Amelia is now the wife of William Kugel; Harvey, who took a course in the Wisconsin State Agricultural College, is associated with his father in the management of the home farm; Lucy, who remains at the parental home, was graduated in the college at Waverly, this state; Adele was graduated in the high school at Garnavillo and is now a popular and successful teacher in the schools of her native county; and Anna and Irwin are the younger members of the happy home circle.

**Edward B. Hanson, M. D.**, is a popular and progressive young man who has by his ability and service gained secure prestige as

one of the presentative physicians and surgeons of his native county, and he is engaged in successful general practice, with residence and professional headquarters in the village of Edgewood. The Doctor was born at Strawberry Point, this county, on the 9th of April, 1880, and is a son of Bernard and Julia (Scully) Hanson, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ireland. Bernard Hanson became a resident of Clayton county in the early pioneer period of its history, as he here established his home about 1841. He became one of the pioneer farmers of Cox Creek township and later engaged in the general merchandise business at Strawberry Point, where he continued in this line of enterprise for many years, and where he continued his residence, as a representative citizen, until the time of his death, which occurred February 19, 1910, his devoted wife having passed to the life eternal in February, 1899, and both having been zealous communicants of the Catholic church. They became the parents of seven children, of whom the first two, James and Frederick, are deceased; Margaret now resides in the city of Dubuque, as does also Thomas; Dr. Edward B., of this review, was the next in order of birth; May resides in the city of Portland, Oregon; and Lulu is deceased. In the public schools of Strawberry Point Dr. Hanson continued his studies until he had completed a course in the high school, and his higher academic education was obtained in the University of Iowa. In preparation for his chosen profession he entered the celebrated Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital in the city of Chicago, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1903, and from which he received his degree of Doctor of Medicine. He served as interne and house physician of the hospital of the institution, and in the latter position he continued until May, 1904, the experience having added materially to his fortification for the exacting and responsible duties of private practice, as the clinical cases in the hospital were such as to give him broad and varied knowledge of a practical order. Upon leaving Chicago the Doctor returned to his native county and established his residence at Edgewood, where he has since been engaged in successful general practice and where he has proved an able and loyal exponent of the benignant homoeopathic school of practice. He is an ambitious student of his profession and keeps in close touch with the advances made in medical and surgical science, the while he is actively affiliated with the American Institute of Homoeopathy. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. On the 25th of November, 1908, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Hanson to Miss Lottie Smith, of Strawberry Point, and they have a winsome little daughter, Helen Maurine, who was born June 29, 1912.

**Joseph Harbaugh** is a sterling citizen who is living in gracious retirement in the village of Garber and whose present status of peace and prosperity stands in evidence of the material success that is to be gained in connection with the great industry of agriculture, of which he was long and active and representative exponent in Clayton county. He came to this county with his parents in



the year that marked his attaining to his legal majority, and as his honored father died a few months later he assumed heavy responsibilities, as he was the eldest of the children and became the virtual head of the family. He has now attained to the venerable age of eighty-two years (1916), and in his well preserved mental and physical powers he exemplifies the admirable results of right thinking and right living. He is one of the honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county, a man of steadfast rectitude and one who has played well his part in connection with the duties and responsibilities of life, and none is more worthy of recognition in this history. Mr. Harbaugh was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of July, 1834, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (Blackburn) Harbaugh, both likewise natives of the old Keystone State, where the father was born in the year 1812 and the mother in 1810, she having been a daughter of Joseph Blackburn, who passed his entire life in Pennsylvania, and who was of English descent, the family name of his wife having been Weingartner. John Harbaugh, paternal grandfather of the subject of this review, likewise passed his entire life in Pennsylvania, a representative of an English family that was founded in America in the colonial days, the family name of his wife having been Hammond. Thomas Harbaugh, a carpenter by trade, came with his family to Iowa in 1855 and became a pioneer settler of Clayton county, where he established his home in Pine Hollow, Volga township. There he died in the autumn of the same year, leaving a widow and seven children. Of the children the subject of this sketch was the eldest, as previously noted; Elizabeth died in childhood; Josiah is living retired in Volga township; Mary, who became the wife of John Grace, is now deceased; Margaret is the widow of John Jones; Sarah is the widow of William Tompkins; John is a substantial farmer of this county; and Rachel is the widow of Quint Hart. Joseph Harbaugh was twenty-one years old at the time of the family removal from the old Keystone State to Clayton county, Iowa, and with the death of his father he assumed the responsibilities of making provision for his widowed mother and the younger children, besides having also to look earnestly to the interests of the young wife whom he had brought with him from Pennsylvania. He purchased forty acres of wild land, in Section 8, Volga township, and on the same he erected an unpretentious house as a domicile for the family. In 1857 he returned to Pennsylvania, and from that state he went to Mansfield, Ohio, where he remained three and one-half years. The following year he passed at St. Johns, the judicial center of Clinton county, Michigan, and he then returned to Clayton county, where he continued his successful activities as a farmer during the ensuing half century, his homestead farm, of one hundred and twenty acres, having been well improved, and forty acres of the same being still in his possession, the other eighty acres having been sold by him several years ago. He retired from the farm in 1914 and has since resided in his pleasant and comfortable home in the village of Garber. His loved mother attained to ven-



erable age and passed to the life eternal in June, 1891. Mr. Harbaugh has always been a supporter of the principles for which the Democratic party has stood sponsor in a basic way, and he is a member of the Dunkard church, as was also his wife. In Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1833, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Harbaugh to Miss Mahala Heck, daughter of Daniel Heck, and she passed to the life eternal more than thirty years ago. They became the parents of five sons and five daughters: Ellen is the wife of Dill MacDole; Daniel is a farmer in Volga township; Adeline is the wife of Frank Stone; William Sanford is a farmer in South Dakota; Mary Catherine is the wife of Henry Hansel; Jefferson is a prosperous farmer of Volga township; Charles is a land agent in the state of Washington; Joseph J. is a substantial farmer near Colesburg, Delaware county, Iowa; Miss Nettie lives with her sister, Mrs. Hansel; and Malinda is the wife of Edward Jennings. On the 12th of December, 1891, at Osterdock, this county, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Harbaugh to Mrs. Lizzie (Wingard) Shea, a daughter of the late Jacob Wingard, of Scranton, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Harbaugh presides with graciousness over the pleasant and hospitable home at Garber and she and her husband have an adopted daughter, whose maiden name was Lena Weaver and who is now the wife of Villard Harbaugh, their home being in South Dakota.

**John Hartwick** has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a lad of six years, and within the intervening period of nearly sixty years he has proved himself a resourceful exponent of agricultural and live-stock industry in this favored section of the Hawkeye State, where he has precedence as the owner of one of the most extensive and valuable landed estates in Clayton county, the same comprising nearly one thousand acres, and his splendidly improved homestead being eligibly situated in Giard township, with rural mail service on Route No. 1 from the village of McGregor. Mr. Hartwick is a representative of one of the honored and influential pioneer families of this county, and of that staunch German element of citizenship that has played so large and benignant a part in connection with the social and material development and upbuilding of the county. He was born in the Grand Duchy of Hessen, Germany, on the 29th of September, 1840, and is a son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Schneider) Hartwick, who left the Fatherland in 1847 and immigrated to America. Soon after their arrival in the land of their adoption they came to Iowa and numbered themselves among the early settlers of Clayton county. After a comparatively brief period of residence in the little village of McGregor, Conrad Hartwick purchased a tract of wild land in Giard township and instituted the reclamation of the same. Industry and good management were not denied a generous measure of prosperity, and he became one of the extensive landholders and substantial farmers, as well as an honored and influential citizen, of the county, where he continued his residence until the time of his death, which occurred May 25, 1890, the loved wife of his youth having been summoned to eternal rest on

the 25th of May, 1873, and the subject of this review having been their only child. Conrad Hartwick entered most fully into the spirit of American institutions and became a staunch advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party. He was a man whose course was guided and governed by invincible integrity, and both he and his wife were zealous and consistent members of the German Methodist Episcopal church. John Hartwick was reared under the invigorating influences of the home farm, and his memory links the pioneer epoch in the history of Clayton county with the twentieth century of opulent prosperity. He gained his early education in the pioneer schools of Giard township, and, as the only child, he naturally remained at the parental home, and with the passing years began to relieve his father more and more of the exacting duties and responsibilities attending the various operations of the large farm, into full possession of which he came in 1890, upon the death of his honored father. The homestead comprised seven hundred acres and he has since added to his landed estate until he now has a fine domain of nearly one thousand acres, all in Giard township. He is one of the extensive and influential representatives of agricultural and live-stock industry in Clayton county and through his well ordered enterprise has become known as one of the substantial capitalists of the county. He is one of the leading stockholders in the State Bank of McGregor and is serving as a member of its directorate. Now venerable in years, he has given over the active management of his farm estate to his only surviving son and is living virtually retired, strong of mind and physical powers and secure in the confidence and good will of the community in which he has lived since his boyhood. Mr. Hartwick has never been perturbed by ambition for public office, though he has been loyal and liberal as a citizen and given his co-operation in the furtherance of those movements that have tended to conserve the general welfare of the community, the while he has been found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party, both he and his wife being zealous members of the German Methodist Episcopal church at Giard, in which he formerly served as a steward. On the 2d of March, 1865, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hartwick to Miss Christina Arnold, of Farmersburg township, this county, and she has proved a devoted companion and helpmeet during the long intervening years, while her gracious personality has gained and retained to her the high regard of all who have come within the compass of her influence. She is the second in order of birth in a family of three children, of whom the first was Frederick, whose death occurred when he was about sixty-two years old; Mary, the youngest of the number, is the wife of Edward Griffin, and they maintain their home in Hancock county, this state. Mrs. Hartwick was born in Baden, Germany, on the 20th of October, 1847, and was about four years of age when, in 1851, her parents, Frederick and Christinia (Sexaur) Arnold, immigrated to America and settled in Farmersburg township, Clayton county, where she was reared and educated, her father having been one of the substantial



farmers of that township at the time of his death, which occurred January 4, 1874, and his wife having long survived him, she having been called to the "land of the leal" on the 16th of November, 1904, at a venerable age, and both having been earnest members of the German Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Hartwick became the parents of four children, all of whom are living except the third, Alfred, who was born September 16, 1873, and who died on the 9th of the following February. Matilda is the wife of William A. Meyer, a prosperous farmer of Giard township, and she was born May 16, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have four children—Gilbert N., Clinton John, Ewald A., and Irwin W. Clara, the second child, was born September 27, 1869, and is now the wife of Rev. George Wessel, who is a clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal church and who now holds the superintendency of the church in South Dakota, their only child being a daughter, Irene. Theodore Hartwick, who has the active supervision of the home farm, was born September 30, 1875, and is well upholding the prestige of the family name, both as a progressive citizen and as a successful agriculturist and stock-raiser of his native county. He married Miss Matilda E. Datisman, of Dubuque, Iowa, and they became the parents of two children, John and Helen, the latter of whom died at the age of seven years.

**Miner F. Harwood** is one of the most popular, progressive and influential business men in his native town of Strawberry Point, where he is cashier of the First National Bank and otherwise prominent in business and civic affairs. Here his birth occurred on the 3d of March, 1878, and he is a son of Newton and Helen (Tuller) Harwood, both of whom were born and reared in the state of New York and both of whom passed the closing years of their lives in Clayton county. The father came to this county in 1870 and for a long period he was actively engaged in farming enterprise, besides which he gained prominence as a citizen of Strawberry Point, where he served for several terms in the office of city marshal. The subject of this sketch is the younger of the two children, and the firstborn, Julia, died in infancy. Miner F. Harwood received excellent educational advantages in his youth, his earlier discipline having been that of the public schools of his native county. He was thereafter a student for about two years in Upper Iowa University, in which institution he took a commercial course, and later he went to the city of Chicago, where he completed a course in the School of Pharmacy of Northwestern University. He was graduated in June, 1899, and also took a course of higher academic study in the school of instruction maintained under the auspices of the Central Young Men's Christian Association of Chicago. Upon his return to Strawberry Point he here became actively identified with the drug business and at the same time he assumed the general supervision of the old home farm of 170 acres, a property of which he disposed in 1910. In February of the following year he was chosen assistant cashier of the First National Bank, and his executive ability and marked fidelity lead to his being advanced to the office of cashier of this repre-



sentative financial institution, the latter office having been held by him since July 1, 1913. He has been a member of the directorate of the bank since 1911, is serving as township treasurer at the time of this writing, in 1916, besides which he is treasurer also of the Strawberry Point District Fair Association and of the local Farmers' Co-operative Association, which operates the creamery at Strawberry Point. He is a leader in progressive movements in his native place, which has done much to further the civic and material advancement of Strawberry Point. Mr. Harwood gives his political allegiance to the Democratic party and is prominently identified with the Knights of Pythias, in which he is chancellor commander of Acme Lodge, No. 130, and he is treasurer of Strawberry Point Encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which fraternity his basic affiliation is with York Lodge, No. 175. On the 28th of November, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Norwood to Miss Harriet Flower, who was born in Fayette county, this state, and they have one daughter, Helene, who was born March 2, 1908.

**William Haufle** has passed the greater part of his life thus far in Clayton county, where he was born December 4, 1874, and he became dependent upon his own resources when a mere boy. His courage, ambition and energy proved equal to the responsibilities that devolved upon him and resulted in his winning, by personal effort, a substantial measure of success and prosperity. He became one of the progressive and successful exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in this section of his native state, and after selling his well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres, in Fayette county, he returned, in 1913, to Clayton county and purchased twenty-six and one-half acres of valuable land in Cass township, this entire tract being within the corporate limits of the village of Strawberry Point and having been by him improved with a fine and thoroughly modern residence, erected in the summer of 1916 and constituting the pleasant home of the family. Mr. Haufle is now the efficient and popular secretary and manager of the Strawberry Point Co-operative Commission Company, which is proving a most important medium for the marketing of farm products in this section of the county. He is a staunch Republican in politics, has served as a member of the school board, and both he and his wife are communicants of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Haufle is a son of Florian and Louisa Haufle, both of whom were born in Germany. The father came to America when a young man and he became one of the substantial farmers of Clayton county, his farm having been near Strawberry Point. He died August 4, 1902, his devoted wife having passed away in 1883. Of the six children four are deceased, and of the two surviving, William, of this sketch, is the elder, his brother Frederick being now a resident of Snohomish, Washington. The early educational advantages of William Haufle were those of the district schools, and as a lad of fourteen years he began working as a farm hand, his wages having been given to his parents in large part until he had attained to his legal majority. Thereafter he con-

tinued his services as a farm hand for four years, and the ensuing four years found him engaged in farming on land which he rented. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Fayette county, and with increasing prosperity he added to this a tract of forty acres. He continued as one of the vigorous and successful representatives of farm enterprise in Fayette county until 1913, when, as previously stated, he sold his farm and established his home at Strawberry Point. On December 16, 1897, Mr. Haufle wedded Miss Elizabeth Allenstein, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of Christof and Caroline (Griesinger) Allenstein, both natives of Germany. The father was comparatively a young man at the time of his death, which occurred about the year 1880, and of his four children, Mrs. Haufle is the youngest; Mary is the wife of Frederick Griesse, of Rock Rapids, Lyon county; Minnie is the wife of John Lindtner, of Steen, Rock county, Minnesota; Augusta is the wife of Henry Griesse, of Rock Rapids. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Allenstein became the wife of Michael Weger, and he is survived by their two children—Emma, wife of Theodore Falck, of Fayette county, and Lena, wife of Martin Baumgardner, of Clayton county. For her third husband, Mrs. Weger married George Weger, and they own and reside upon a fine farm near Strawberry Point, their two children being William and Sophia. Mr. and Mrs. Haufle have three children—Clara Caroline Minnie, who was born November 29, 1898; Emma Barbara, who was born August 12, 1902, and an unnamed baby.

**John Hauschen** was not yet one year old at the time when his parents, in 1857, became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, and here he has maintained his home during the long intervening years, within which he has accounted well for himself as one of the earnest and productive workers. He has been an effective exponent of the agricultural interests of the county, has conducted a prosperous business as a wagonmaker, and is now established in the control of a substantial and prosperous hardware and grocery business in the village of Clayton, with a record that redounds to his honor and that has given him inviolable place in the confidence and good will of the people of Clayton county. Mr. Hauschen was born in the city of Galena, Illinois, on the 12th of August, 1856, at which time his native place was a mere village, and in the following year his parents removed to Clayton county, Iowa, as previously noted. He is one of the three surviving members of a family of eight children and is a son of John and Mary Hauschen, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in Scotland. In 1854, within a short time after their marriage, the parents immigrated to the United States and established their residence in Illinois, where they remained until their removal to Clayton county. In his native land John Hauschen, Sr., had learned the trade of blacksmith, and he became one of the pioneer exponents of the same in Clayton county, where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, secure in the high esteem of all who knew them, and where each was of ad-



vanced age at the time of death. He to whom this sketch is dedicated was reared under the conditions and influences that obtained in the pioneer epoch of the history of Clayton county, and here he acquired his early education in the common schools of the period. Under effective direction he learned in his youth the trade of wagonmaker, at which he became a skilled workman, and in 1881 he established a wagon shop in the village of Clayton, where he continued to conduct a successful business until, in 1888, he turned his attention to the basic industry of agriculture. He rented a farm of 120 acres in Clayton township, and there he continued his operations in diversified agriculture and stock-growing for a period of seven years. He then again opened a wagon shop at Clayton and continued his activities in the work of his trade until 1901, when he established himself in the hardware business, to which he later added a grocery department. This dual enterprise he has since successfully conducted and he is known as one of the representative business men of the county that has been his home during virtually his entire life thus far. In politics Mr. Hauschen is not constrained by strict partisan lines but maintains an independent attitude and gives his support to the men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment. His secure place in popular confidence and esteem has been indicated in his service as treasurer of Clayton corporation for a period of fifteen years and by his giving an equal period of service in the office of treasurer of his school district. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. In addition to his individual business Mr. Hauschen has the management of the Clayton office of the Standard, the Bell and the Garnaville Telephone Companies. In the year 1881 was solemnized his marriage to Miss Mary L. Kuenzel, who was born and reared in Clayton county, as a representative of an honored pioneer family, and the four children of this union are Victor, Ernest G., William E. and Christopher.

**J. W. D. Havens** became a resident of Clayton county in the pioneer days and when he was a lad of about seven years. His career has been varied and interesting and included gallant service as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war, after the close of which he traveled extensively as a member of a band that gained high reputation for the high-grade musical standard which it represented. Since 1908 he has been associated with his only son in the livery and automobile business at McGregor, and he is one of the well known, genial and popular citizens of Clayton county—a sterling citizen who well merits consideration in this history. Mr. Havens was born in Essex county, New York, on the 6th of December, 1844, and is a son of John and Jane (Stevenson) Havens, the former of whom was born in the State of New York, where the family was founded in an early day, and the latter of whom was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada. John Havens was one of the adventurous argonauts who made their way to California after the discovery of gold in that state, and he gained distinction as one of



the memorable "Forty-niners," though he did not live long to enjoy this distinction, as he was accidentally shot and killed soon after his return to New York, where he left his young widow with one child, he to whom this sketch is dedicated. In 1851 J. W. D. Havens accompanied his mother on her removal to Clayton county, Iowa, and after maintaining her home here for a number of years his mother removed to Richland county, Nebraska, where she passed the remainder of her life. Mr. Havens was reared to maturity in Clayton county, where he availed himself of the advantages of the pioneer schools and where in his youth he imbibed deeply of the vigorous spirit of the progressive west. When the Civil war was precipitated on the nation he was not yet seventeen years of age, but his youthful patriotism was not long to be held in bounds, and in 1862 he enlisted as bugler in the Sixth Iowa Cavalry. He saw long and strenuous service, was detailed to scout duty for a considerable period and had many hazardous experiences, his service in the volunteer branch of the United States army having covered a period of three years, besides which he gave two years of effective service as an Indian scout in the great west. In this latter service he several times received arrow wounds, and on one occasion was wounded by a gun shot in his right leg. After the close of his career as an intrepid and hardy soldier, Mr. Havens returned to Clayton county, but soon afterward he became a member of an excellent band that traveled throughout the various states of the Union and made an admirable record for effective musical renditions, his service in this connection being that of leader of the orchestra. During all these long years Mr. Havens has continued to look upon Clayton county as his home and here his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. As previously stated, he has been since 1908 engaged in the livery and automobile business at McGregor, with a well equipped establishment and with his only son as his effective coadjutor in the thriving enterprise. Mr. Havens had previously served eleven years as city policeman of McGregor, and for eighteen years he held the office of constable. He is unswerving in his loyalty to the cause of the Republican party, is an appreciative and valued member of Harvey Dix Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and is identified also with the local organization of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. On the 4th of July, 1888, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Havens to Miss Eolah M. Hill, who was born in the state of New York, and their only son, Earl M., still remains at the parental home, besides being associated with his father in business, as already noted, and being one of the popular and enterprising young men of his native county.

**George W. Hazlett**, as one of the representative agriculturists and stock grower of Clayton county, may well take pride in and mark his appreciation of his fine homestead farm, in Giard township, for not only is it one of the model places of the county, but it is also that upon which he was born and reared, his birth having here occurred on the 3d of August, 1875. He is a son of George and Jane (Whitaker) Hazlett, both natives of Ireland, where the

former was born in County Monaghan and the latter in County Sligo. George Hazlett was reared and educated in his native land and in 1849, as a young man, he immigrated to America, where he felt assured of broader opportunities for the winning of stable prosperity. Soon after his arrival in the United States he came to Iowa and took up a tract of government land in what is now Giard township, Clayton county, but in the following year he yielded to the lure incidental to the recent discovery of gold in California, to which State he made his way over the plains to the New Eldorado, where he met with measurable success in his quest for the precious metal and where he gained the distinction of being one of the pioneers in the gold fields. Upon his return to Clayton county he directed himself vigorously and effectively to the reclaiming and improving of his farm, which he brought under a high state of cultivation. With increasing prosperity he continued to make judicious investment in land, and at the time of his death he was the owner of a valuable estate of two hundred acres of specially well improved land. He was one of the honored pioneers of the county, contributed much to its civic and industrial development and progress and was influential in community affairs. His political allegiance was given unreservedly to the Republican party and his alert mind caused him to become well fortified in his convictions concerning public affairs. He served efficiently as township trustee and was otherwise prominent in local affairs. This sterling citizen passed to the life eternal in January, 1891, secure in the high regard of all who knew him, and his venerable widow, who with him held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, still remains on the old homestead with her son George W., the immediate subject of this review. Of the children the first-born, Marjorie, the wife of J. W. Radskinner, is deceased; Rachel is the wife of Samuel Barnes, a prosperous farmer in Linton township, Allamakee county; Susan is the widow of John Feay and maintains her home at Henry, South Dakota; Mary Jane is deceased; William remains on the old homestead; Albert is deceased; Jennie is the wife of John Belk, of Henry, South Dakota; and Cora resides at Monona, one of the most attractive villages of her native county. George W. Hazlett, the youngest of the eight children, was reared to manhood on the farm which is still his place of abode and after profiting by the advantages of the district schools he completed an effective course in the high school at Monona. He then put his scholastic attainments to practical test by teaching one term in the district school of his home county, and thereafter he pursued for a time higher academic studies in a seminary at Wood Springs. His appreciation of and close allegiance to the basic industry of agriculture have continued during the years that have since intervened and he is known and honored as one of the representative citizens and progressive farmers of this favored section of the Hawkeye State. As a youth he began his independent career as an agriculturist on his father's farm, and in 1898, after the death of his father, he and his brother, Wm. J., purchased the landed estate of two hundred acres, to which they have since added a tract of eighty acres, so that they are the owners

of one of the large landed domains of his native county, even as it is also one that most fully shows for thrift and prosperity. The farm is devoted to diversified agriculture and the raising of good breeds of live stock, including short-horn cattle and Poland-China swine, and in both departments of the farm enterprise Mr. Hazlett has as his partner and valued coadjutor his brother William. He is broadminded and liberal as a citizen, gives a staunch support to the cause of the Republican party in a generic way but is somewhat independent of strict partisanship in local affairs. At Monona he is affiliated with the camp of the Modern Woodmen of America, and there also he and his wife, as well as his mother, hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church. On the 19th of September, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hazlett to Miss Mae Cunningham, who was born and reared in Giard township, and who is a daughter of Isaac and Frances R. (Collier) Cunningham, still residents of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Hazlett have five children, namely: George Irwin, Wilma, Merlie Mae, Frances Marjorie, and Mary Jane. The family home is one of the attractive and hospitable habitations of Giard township and is a popular center of much of the representative social life of the immediate community.

**William James Hazlett**, who is actively associated with his brother George in the operations of the fine old farmstead described in the preceding paragraph, was here born on the 8th of January, 1865, and the two brothers are partners in the ownership of the valuable estate. William J. Hazlett is indebted to the public schools of his native township for his early educational advantages, and he has been continuously identified with the work and management of the old homestead farm from his early youth to the present time. He has remained a bachelor and resides with the family of his brother, the home circle being the more complete and gracious by reason of the presence of the venerable mother, who is held in affectionate regard by all who have come within the sphere of her gentle influence. Mr. Hazlett is aligned as a staunch advocate of the cause of the Republican party, is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Northern Light Lodge No. 156, at Monona, and is a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is serving as a trustee.

**Albert L. Heddleson**, one of the vigorous and progressive exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in Clayton county, was born on the fine homestead farm which he now owns and occupies, in Cass township, and the date of his nativity was May 3, 1876. He is a son of Jacob and Laura (Ferguson) Heddleson, of whose seven children he was the fifth in order of birth, and the other surviving children are 2 sons and 3 daughters. The father was born in the state of Ohio and the mother in that of Illinois, where their marriage was solemnized, and whence they came to Clayton county, Iowa, in the early '70s, their home being established on the farm now owned and managed by the subject of this review. The father became one of the prosperous farmers and honored and influential citizens of Cass township and both he and his wife con-



tinued to reside on their home farm until the close of their lives. In the public schools of Clayton county Albert L. Heddleson continued his studies until he had profited duly by the advantages of the high school, and thereafter he continued to lend his co-operation in the work of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, and thereafter he continued virtually independent operations on the same fine farm until he assumed entire control of the property. This splendidly improved homestead comprises one hundred and sixty acres, in Sections 27 and 34, Cass township, and in addition thereto Mr. Heddleson owns also forty acres in Delaware county. He is not only an enterprising agriculturist who brings to bear in his operations the most approved methods and appliances but he is making a specialty and definite success also in the raising and feeding of the fine Black Angus type of cattle and the Hampshire swine. He is a popular and appreciative member of the lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Strawberry Point, and has filled the various official chairs in the same. He has served as a member of the school board of the district in which he himself gained his early education, and his political allegiance is given to the Democratic party. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Strawberry Point and he and his sisters attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church in that village, from which their home receives service on rural mail route No. 2. Mr. Heddleson has permitted his name to remain on the roll of eligible bachelors in his native county, but has been signally favored in having three sisters associated with him in maintaining the generous hospitality of the home, over the domestic economies of which the sisters preside most graciously, even as do they also over its social activities. Katherine E., Jessie B. and Pearl M. are all high school graduates, and the two younger sisters also completed collegiate courses, Pearl M. having been for some time a representative of the pedagogic profession, as a successful and popular teacher in her home county.

**Hans Helgesen.**—One of the most gratifying elements of our national life is the part played by men of foreign birth who have chosen America for their permanent home and who have caught the real spirit of our institutions. They have lent themselves with all of the fine force that is in them to patriotic service and to furthering the social and material welfare of the land of their adoption, besides which they have reared their sons to deep appreciation of the privileges and opportunities afforded in the great republic of America, thus reinforcing stable and worthy social and industrial conditions. This is especially true of those of Scandinavian birth or lineage, and from this source the United States has had much to gain and nothing to lose. Clayton county, Iowa, has been fortunate in gaining an appreciable element of such valued Scandinavian citizenship and it is most pleasing to be able to render in this history a due tribute to those of this class who stand representative in loyal citizenship and resourceful activity in connection with the communal life. He whose name initiates this article is a native son of Clayton county and may well

take pride in his lineage, which traces back to the staunchest of origin in the fair Norseland. He was born on the old homestead farm of his father, in Section 27, Wagner township, this county, and the date of his nativity was August 25, 1876, and it is gratifying to note that he is now the owner of the fine farm which was the place of his birth and in the operations of which he is well upholding the prestige of a family name that has been prominently identified with the civic and industrial development and progress of this favored section of the Hawkeye State. Mr. Helgesen is a son of Peter and Jane (Glesne) Helgesen, both of whom were born in Norway. Peter Helgesen was a lad of thirteen years at the time when he came to the United States, and he became a youthful pioneer of Clayton county, where he found employment at farm work until he had attained to the age of sixteen years, when he entered claim to the homestead of one hundred and sixty acres now owned and occupied by his son Hans, of this review. He reclaimed the land to cultivation, labored early and late with undaunted purpose and finally won for himself substantial independence and prosperity. He made the best of permanent improvements on his farms, including the erection of the present commodious and attractive house and large and well equipped barns and other farm buildings, and here he held sway as one of the substantial farmers and honored citizens of Clayton county until his death, which occurred on the 9th of May, 1906, his widow still remaining with their son Hans on the old homestead that is endeared to her by the hallowed memories and associations of the past. She is a devoted communicant of the Lutheran church, as was also her husband, and the latter was a staunch Republican in his political proclivities. Of the eight children the eldest is Helen, who is the wife of Ole M. Benson, of Wagner township; Nellie is the wife of Embert Embretson, of St. Olaf, this county; Caroline is the wife of Otto Johnson, of St. Olaf; Hans (1st) died in infancy and Hans (2nd) is the immediate subject of this sketch; Mary remains with her brother and widowed mother on the old homestead; Oscar is now a resident of Dickinson, North Dakota; and Gerhard died in childhood. He whose name initiates this article was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and in the meanwhile profited duly by the advantages afforded in the local schools. He remained with his parents until 1902, when he became identified with the general merchandise business, at St. Olaf. In 1905, about a year prior to the death of his father, he purchased the old homestead farm, and here he has since continued his progressive and successful activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower, everything about his well improved domain bearing evidence of thrift and prosperity. He is loyal in supporting measures and enterprises tending to advance the general well-being of the community and is unswerving in his allegiance to the Republican party, both he and his wife clinging to the religious faith in which they were reared and being zealous communicants of the Lutheran church. On the 14th of October, 1900, Mr. Helgesen wedded Miss Alice Larson, who has been a resident of this county from the time of

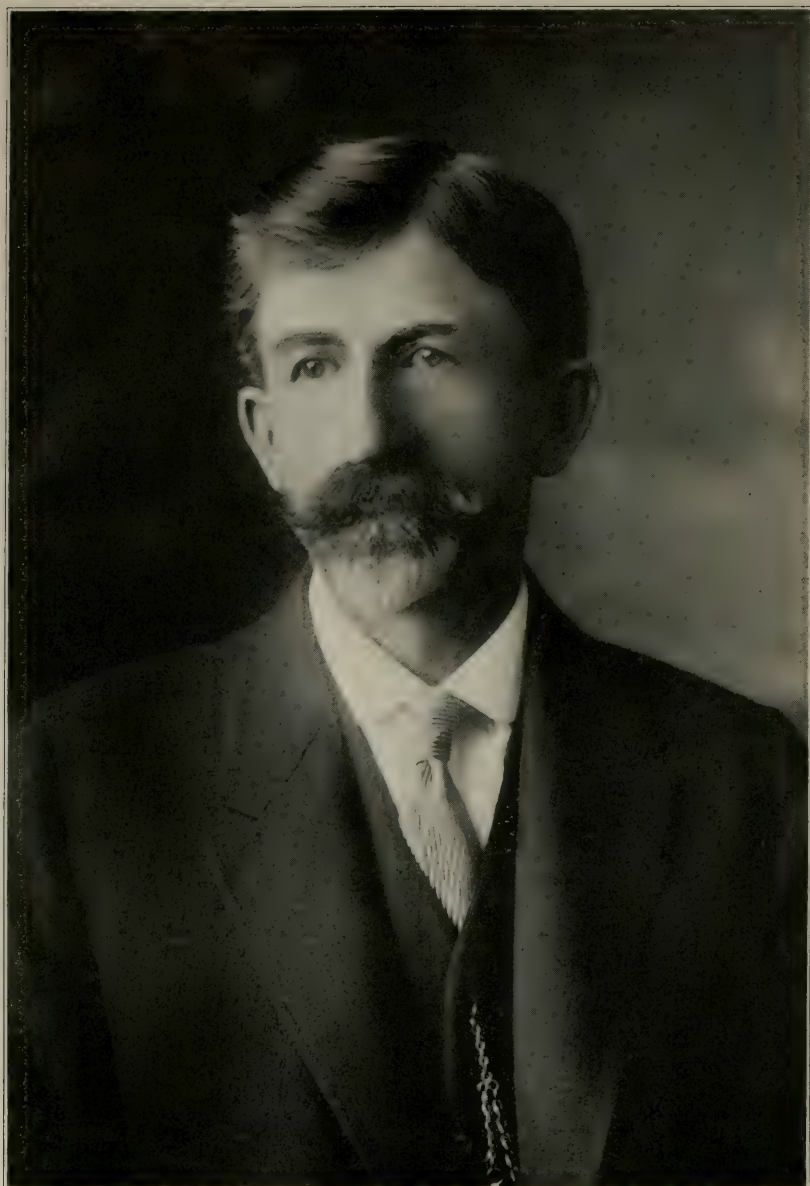
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JOHN G. HEMPEL

her birth, and the one child of this union was Orvill Hurburt, who was born September 4, 1915, and who died September 10, 1916.

**Hempel, John G.**—One of the men whose career reflects credit upon Clayton county and who by his earnestness and ability has gained a state-wide reputation, is Mr. John G. Hempel of Elkader. He has not only filled positions of trust and confidence in the county, but he has been recognized as one of the leaders of his political faith in Iowa, and his counsel and experience have been called for on many occasions. Mr. Hempel is a native of Clayton county and practically all of his life has been spent within its borders. He is the son of Charles F. and Dorothy (Newman) Hempel. His parents were born in Friedland, Germany, coming to America in 1851, and settling in Erie county, Pa., where his father was employed in various capacities for a period of two years. Consumed with the spirit of the pioneer, the family determined to go to the new west, and accordingly, in 1853, they came to Clayton county. They journeyed by rail as far as Galena, Ill., which was then the terminus of the road, and they then came by boat, up the Mississippi to McGregor's landing. They settled in Giard township, where John G., the subject of this sketch, was born, December 9th, 1860. During the years 1859 and 1864 Mr. Hempel, senior, made several trips across the prairie to Nebraska, taking up claims as a matter of speculation. The journey was made by ox team and Mr. Hempel took his little family with him so that Mr. John Hempel is one of the few in this county who have any remembrance of the hardships of the pioneer prairie trail. Charles F. Hempel had seven children, Charles M., who resides at Hillsboro, N. D.; Edwin A., of Minneapolis, Minn.; John G., of Elkader; Katharine and Caroline, of Charles City, Iowa; Mary, of Nashua, Iowa; and Adeline, deceased. In 1911, at the age of eighty-one, the respected father of the worthy family passed to the other life at his home at Charles City, Iowa, having been preceded by his wife, who died in 1896, at the age of fifty-six. As a boy and youth John G. worked on his father's farm, and attended the schools of Giard township, laying the foundation not only of a thorough and practical education but of good health and of habits of industry, thrift and thoroughness. At the age of twenty he left the old homestead and went to the little village of Giard, where he obtained a position as clerk in the general store conducted by J. D. Bickel. Some six months later the firm of Neill and Bickel was formed, and for one year Mr. Hempel was buyer for this firm, his work being so satisfactory that he was later made manager of the company's store. This position he held for three years. Desiring to learn the clothing business, Mr. Hempel resigned his place in Giard and went to McGregor, where, with the thoroughness for which he is noted, he spent seven years with various firms of that city, learning every detail of the clothing business. At this time, having saved sufficiently from his salary, he returned to Giard, buying the store in which he had formerly been an employee. He conducted this store for three years and during this time came to be recognized as one

of the solid and trustworthy men of the county. His friends and neighbors showed their appreciation of his ability and he was made secretary and treasurer of the Farmer's Creamery Association, secretary of the township school board, and secretary of the Clayton County Fair Association. April 1st, 1895, Mr. Hempel disposed of his business at Giard, moved to Elkader and started the clothing and furnishing store with which he has been connected continuously for the past twenty-one years. During these years he has built up the largest clothing business in Clayton county, carrying the largest exclusive clothing stock in the county. In 1894, while Mr. Hempel was still at Giard, the republicans, looking for a strong and popular man for their ticket, as the county had been democratic for a number of years, placed Mr. Hempel in nomination for recorder. It was not expected that he would be elected and it was a surprise when he came out of the race with a scant 97 majority against him when the other democratic majorities ranged from 250 to 450. This excellent showing induced his friends to place him in nomination, in 1896, for the office of county auditor and he was elected by a majority of 33. He was re-elected in 1898, 1900 and 1902, serving eight years in this important capacity. His record as an official was without a flaw and he was noted for his efficiency, courtesy and faithfulness. While holding office as auditor the county treasurer, Charles Ruegnitz, died, Mr. Hempel, under the law, taking charge of his office, and shortly before the semi-annual settlement of the board of supervisors, in conjunction with John H. Hill, he was appointed to balance the books of this office. During these years and subsequently, Mr. Hempel took an active part in the politics of the Republican party in the state and in the congressional district, and his ability as a party organizer was recognized by his election for two terms as a member of the Republican State Central Committee for the Fourth Congressional district. He was also appointed by Gov. A. B. Cummins as a member of the state voting machine commission, in which capacity he served several terms, and contributed valuable effort to the state. He was also appointed to audit the books of the state fair association, and for a number of years he was a member of the city council of Elkader. Upon leaving the auditor's office Mr. Hempel resumed active charge of his clothing store, and to this business he has devoted all his energies since that time, with most gratifying results. It may be remarked that at present Mr. Hempel is conducting the business without assistance of any kind, and that no stock could be neater and more methodically arranged, and no business in better condition than this concern which he operates single-handed. Mr. Hempel presents a splendid example of German efficiency, thoroughly and stalwartly Americanized. While engrossed in his business, he finds time for other things and he is recognized as one of the strong and progressive republicans of the state, and he is ready at all times to give his best efforts for the benefit of his party and of Clayton county. On February 1st, 1887, Mr. Hempel was united in marriage with Miss Emma J. Beckel of Giard, and to them were born three children, Iowa H., now Mrs. G. J. Graf, who is acting as



deputy county treasurer, Kathleen, at home, and Johneyette G., who died September 13, 1906, at the age of five years. Mr. Hempel holds membership in the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders and is one of the most valued citizens of the community and of the county, and he is, perhaps, as widely known as any man living in the county today.

**Charles F. Henning** is signally fortunate in being the owner of the fine old homestead farm upon which he was born and reared and upon which he has been specially progressive and successful in his independent operations as an agriculturist and stock grower. He has improved the place with excellent buildings since the same came into his possession and the farm is one of the model homesteads of Garnavillo township, where it is eligibly situated in Section 6, the area of the farm being one hundred and sixty acres. On this homestead Mr. Henning was born on the 3d of February, 1873, and he is a son of John and Katherine (Schultz) Henning, of whose large family, comprising twelve children, only four are now living. The parents were born and reared in Germany and upon coming to the United States they became pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa. Here they established their residence on the farm now owned by the subject of this review, here the father reclaimed and improved a productive farm and here he and his devoted wife passed the remainder of their lives, successful in their earnest endeavors and respected by all who knew them. Charles F. Henning early initiated his services in connection with the work of the farm of which he is now the owner and in his boyhood and youth he did not neglect to profit by the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county. His marriage occurred in the year 1898 and within a short time thereafter he purchased the old home farm, to the operations of which he has since given his attention with marked energy and discrimination. He is a stalwart in the local camp of the Democratic party, served two years as trustee of his native township, and for nine years he was a member of the school board of his district. He is liberal in the support of those things that tend to advance the communal welfare, has secure place in popular esteem and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which they were reared. In 1898 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Henning to Miss Amelia L. Kahle, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of August and Mary (Balke) Kahle, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. Kahle and his wife were born and reared in Germany and he became one of the pioneer farmers of Clayton county, where he continued to reside on his homestead farm until his death, as did also his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Henning have two children, Elmer John F. and Amelia Katherine M.

**Charles F. Hesner** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth and has here found ample opportunity for productive enterprise, not only in connection with the fundamental industries of agriculture and stock-growing, but also in the furtherance of business and capitalistic enterprises. He is now living virtually retired in the attractive residence which he erected

in the village of Edgewood, in 1895, and he is also the owner of the modern theater or opera-house building which provides a medium for high-class entertainment for the people of his community. He is associated with his brother in the ownership of a valuable landed estate of three hundred and seventy acres, in Lodomillo township, and this includes the old homestead farm on which he was born, the date of his nativity having been October 8, 1861. Mr. Hesner is a son of John and Barbara (Goodyear) Hesner, who were born and reared in Germany, and who established their home in Clayton county in the early '50s, soon after their immigration to America. The father was a man of splendid energy and judgment and he accumulated and improved a large landed property, in the operations of which he held precedence as one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the county. He was one of the venerable pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of his death, which occurred April 9, 1901, the wife of his youth having passed away in 1867, and their children having been seven in number: Andrew is now a resident of Manchester, Delaware county; Margaret and Barbara are deceased; John resides at Strawberry Point, this county; Sophia is the wife of Luman S. Fisher, concerning whom individual mention is made on other pages; Charles F., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Maria is the wife of L. D. Zahrdt, of Edgewood. After having duly profited by the advantages afforded in the schools of his native county, Charles F. Hesner continued his active association with the work and management of the old home farm and eventually he became associated with his brother John in the ownership of the valuable landed estate of three hundred and seventy acres. He continued his activities as one of the representative farmers in Lodomillo township until 1895, when he removed with his family to Edgewood, where he erected his present fine residence, one of the most modern and attractive in the village, and he has since continued to give his supervision to his various property interests, which are of substantial and important order. He is a Democrat in politics and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. As a young man Mr. Hesner wedded Miss Clara Blanchard, and she is survived by two children, Herbert and Helen, who remain at the paternal home. On the 25th of December, 1906, Mr. Hesner married Mrs. Lillie (Smith) Cooper, her first husband having been Clarence R. Cooper, a native of Ohio, and the only child of that union being Martha Theresa, who remains with her mother. Mrs. Hesner was born and reared in Clayton county and is a daughter of Andrew and Martha Ann (Sergeant) Smith, who came from Canada and established their home in Cass township, this county, in 1857, Mr. Smith having here passed to eternal rest in September, 1876, and his wife having survived him by nearly thirty years, her death taking place December 8, 1905. Of the four children, Mrs. Hesner is the youngest; Albert resides at Strawberry Point, this county; Wilbur is now a resident of Marion, North Dakota; and Louis died in childhood.

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JOHN H. HILL

**John Henry Hill.**—Fortunate is the county which has in its midst some man whose knowledge of county affairs and of property interests is so complete and intimate that he is recognized and accepted as authority by all. Clayton county has such a man in John Henry Hill. For many years he has been delving into the records of the county, and no history would be complete without reference to him and to his work. His record as a citizen and official and as a soldier is without a flaw, and his friends are numbered by his acquaintances. Mr. Hill was born in Waddingham, England, June 27, 1845. He was the son of John and Mary (Hird) Hill, and came, with his parents, to Bytown, now Ottawa, Ontario, at an early date, where his father took up a claim of one hundred acres in Carleton county. Mr. Hill was one of a family of five children, Thomas, who died in 1913; John Henry, the subject of this sketch; William H.; Benjamin, who is a farmer in Carleton county, Ontario, and Eliza J., who resides in Ottawa. Mr. Hill was educated in the country schools near Ottawa and, on graduating, taught in the common schools for one year. In 1863, he came to the United States, worked for a farmer near Skowhegan, Maine. Although having lived in this country but three months, he was fired with patriotic zeal for the Union, and responded to Abraham Lincoln's call to arms by enlisting in the fifteenth regiment, Maine infantry. He served faithfully and bravely until the close of the war, and was honorably discharged from the service of the United States May 31, 1865. After the war the great excitement attendant upon the discovery of oil attracted him to Western Pennsylvania, where he remained for two years. In 1867 he came to Iowa, first settling in Bremer county, where he lived until the spring of 1872. Coming to Clayton county, he resided in Mallory township until January 1, 1886. At this time he removed to Elkader, having been appointed deputy county treasurer. This position he held for eleven years, performing his duties so faithfully and giving such satisfaction to the people that he was honored with the nomination for county recorder, on the Democratic ticket, and was elected by a comfortable majority. He was twice re-elected for this office, retiring from the public service January 1, 1903. It is a remarkable evidence of the popularity of Mr. Hill, and the high esteem in which he was held, that, at the three elections when he was a candidate, he was the only Democratic candidate elected. In 1875, Mr. Hill was married to Miss Mary Hansel, a daughter of Jacob Hansel, of Mallory township. They are the parents of eight children: Eliza, J. Wilbur, Martha J., John J., Mary C., Ethel, Franklin and Florence. Mr. Hill is a member of Elkader lodge, No. 72, A. F. and A. M., Mystic Camp M. W. A., and of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. Last, but not least, he is proud to be a member of Boardman Post No. 184, G. A. R. Mr. Hill has for many years followed the abstracting business and his work is so careful and conscientious, and his knowledge of property transfers so complete, that he is looked upon as an authority, and his word as to a title is as good as a guarantee deed. Mr. Hill is a kindly, genial gentleman; he has an inexhaustible fund of facts

and anecdotes concerning Clayton county and its people. His life has been one of honor and integrity and he has served his adopted country well, both as a citizen and as a soldier. Few men in Clayton county have more real friends.

**Charles Hinsch**, a successful hardware merchant of Farmersburg, Iowa, was born in Germany, January 30, 1850, and is the son of Henry and Claudina (Schoelerman) Hinsch, the former of whom died in Germany. Charles was the second of three children born to his parents; Henry, the eldest, dying in childhood, and Claudina married to Detrich Ben Jegerdes, of Worth county, Iowa. Mr. Hinsch learned and followed the cabinet trade in Germany for fourteen years, then traveled as journeyman for one year, before coming to America in 1869. He arrived in Clayton county in the fall of that year, where he took up carpentering, keeping at that trade for several years, when he went into wagon making, continuing in the business for fifteen years. At the expiration of that time he opened a hardware store, building up the thriving business he still conducts in partnership with his son Arthur. He married Amelia Bothner, and they have become the parents of several children: Henry, who is a contractor and builder of Farmersburg; Claudina, the wife of Christ Meyer, of Montana; Charles, of Minnesota; Arthur, associated with his father in business; Adele, who is married to C. J. Coon, of Van Horn, Iowa; Alma, the wife of P. J. Hemerick, of Billings, Montana; and Eva, who is a teacher. Mr. Hinsch is a Democrat in politics, and has served as Justice of the Peace four years. He belongs to the fraternal orders of Masons and the M. B. A., and is a member of the Lutheran church.

**Assor S. Houg** has been a resident of Marion township from the time of his birth to the present and during his entire adult life he has here been actively associated with the fundamental and all-important industries of agriculture and stock-raising, of which he is now a prominent and influential exponent. He is a man of strong mentality and in his honorable and useful career he has contributed to the civic and industrial advancement and prosperity of his native county; the while he has been the recipient of unqualified popular esteem and has been influential in community affairs in his home township. He represented Marion township on the county board of supervisors for two terms and his total period of service as township clerk has covered more than twenty years, he being the incumbent of this position at the present time and having served continuously as secretary of the school board of his district since 1882. He is director and vice president of the Elgin Savings Bank and the vice president of the Elgin Farmers' Dairy Co. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Clermont. Mr. Houg was born in Marion township, of this county, on the 4th of September, 1857, and is a son of Svend and Margaret (Groth) Houg, both natives of Norway, where they were reared and educated and where their marriage was solemnized. They came to the United States in the year 1852 and established



a home in Clayton county, where the death of the devoted wife and mother occurred in March, 1878. Svend Houg was born December 4, 1814, and upon numbering himself among the pioneers of Clayton county he purchased of his brother-in-law, Ole Groth, a tract of one hundred and ninety-five acres of land, in Marion township. With the passing years large and well merited prosperity attended his efforts and he became one of the substantial farmers and influential citizens of Marion township, a devout and zealous worker in and communicant of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as was also his wife, and for many years he served as a member of the church board of trustees. This honored pioneer, now one of the most patriarchal citizens of Iowa, retains remarkable mental and physical vigor, though he is one hundred and one years of age at the time of this writing, in the summer of 1916. Revered in the county that has long been his place of residence, he is cared for with deep filial solicitude in the home of his son Assor S., the immediate subject of this sketch. The first three children, Lars, Ragnild and Halsten, are deceased; Ole is a resident of Emmett county, this state; Kittle and Knudt are residents of Elgin, Iowa; Ingeri is a resident of Climax, Minnesota; the subject of this sketch was the sixth child; Olaf is a prosperous farmer of Fayette county; Ragnild (second of the name) is the wife of F. E. Gladen, of St. Paul, Minnesota; Elling is another of the representative farmers of Marion township; and Guri resides at Reynolds, Grand Forks county, North Dakota. Assor S. Houg was reared to manhood on the old homestead farm of his father. He made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality and period and since 1882 he has had the active supervision of the splendid estate, as the present owner of three hundred and fifteen acres of most fertile and productive land, in Sections 17 and 20, Marion township, the property being improved with substantial and modern buildings and being maintained at the best modern standard in both the agricultural and stock-raising departments. Mr. Houg has kept himself in close touch with the thought and action of the day, is well fortified in his convictions concerning governmental and economic affairs, and has been an appreciative student and reader, his early education having included a course of one year in college. At the age of 33 years he wedded Miss Bertina Rear, and her death occurred on July 28, 1901. Of the three children of this union the eldest, Elmer Martin, is now a resident of Clermont, Fayette county; and Sylvan Arthur and Elizabeth Ruth remain at the paternal home. On the 15th of November, 1905, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Houg to Miss Emma Rear, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and the three children of this marriage are Signy Margrethe, Gerhard Myron and Anna Esther.

Elling S. Houg has in his independent career as a farmer manifested the energy, progressiveness and excellent judgment that invariably conserve success that is stable and worthy, and he is consistently to be designated as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of his native township and county. He is a son

of Svend Houg, who was one of the sterling pioneers of Clayton county, and concerning the family history it is not necessary to enter into details in the present connection, for on other pages the record is adequately given in the sketch of A. S. Houg. He whose name introduces this article was born in Marion township, this county, on the 1st of March, 1865, his early educational advantages having been those afforded in the common schools of the locality and period and his entire career having been marked by close and effective association with farm industry, of which he has become a prominent and substantial representative in his native township. In 1903 he purchased his present well-improved farm of two hundred and seven acres, the same being eligibly situated in Sections 15 and 22, Marion township, and in the proximity of the village of Elgin, from which the pleasant home receives service on rural mail route No. 5. Mr. Houg carries forward his agricultural and livestock operations with energy and circumspection, is an able and popular representative of these all-important lines of industry in Clayton county, is a Republican in politics and takes loyal interest in community affairs of a public order. He has given effective service as an official of his school district and is now serving as school director. Both he and his wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. On the 13th of December, 1897, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Houg to Miss Maria Olson, who has been a resident of this county from the time of her birth and who is a daughter of John Olson, further mention of the family being made on other pages, in the sketch of the career of T. J. Olson. Mr. and Mrs. Houg have seven children, all of whom remain at the parental home, namely: Joseph Millard, Ruth Sylvia, Emily Myrtle, Agnes Sophia, Hilda Geneva, Alice Loretta, and Myron Ansel.

Frederick H. Howard, M. D., has been established in the practice of his profession at Strawberry Point for more than thirty years, is dean of his profession in this thriving village and is next to the oldest physician and surgeon of Clayton county in point of years of consecutive practice within its borders. His success in his exacting and humane vocation has been on a parity with his recognized ability and zeal and he is to be consistently designated as one of the representative physicians of this section of his native state—one who has kept in close touch with the advances made in both departments of professional work and who has in the meanwhile stood exponent of the staunchest and most loyal citizenship. Dr. Howard was born in Delaware county, this state, on the 6th of February, 1860, and is a son of John B. and Sarah (Proctor) Howard, the former of whom was born in the state of New York and the latter in Ohio. The father of the Doctor is now one of the patriarchal pioneer citizens of Iowa, to which state he came in 1840, after having been the overseer of the first railway grading that was done in the state of Illinois. He celebrated in 1916 the one hundredth anniversary of his birth, retains remarkable mental and physical vigor and is one of the most venerable men in the state which he has seen developed from the wilderness of the

frontier to its present proud position as one of the great and opulent commonwealths of the Union. Upon coming to Iowa this aged and honored citizen established his residence upon a pioneer farm in Delaware county, and there the family home was maintained until 1860, when, shortly after the birth of the subject of this review, removal was made to Fayette county, where John B. Howard has resided during the long intervening years, a strong and worthy citizen who has contributed his quota to the civic and material development and upbuilding of the Hawkeye state. His cherished and devoted wife passed to eternal rest in 1913, at the venerable age of 76 years, and of their nine children, seven are still living. Dr. Howard was an infant at the time of the family removal to Fayette county, where he was reared to adult age on a pioneer farm and where he profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools of the period. Thereafter he pursued a higher academic course in Fayette College, and in consonance with his earnest ambition he finally entered upon the study of medicine in the Hahnemann Medical College in the city of Chicago. In this institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1885, and after thus receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine he engaged in the practice of his profession at Volga, Clayton county, on the 14th of March, 1885. In the following October he removed to Strawberry Point, which village has since continued as the center of his professional activities, which have been attended with unequivocal success and resulted also in his gaining marked prestige, with inviolable place in popular confidence and esteem. The Doctor is an influential and honored member of the Clayton County Medical Society, and is identified also with the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He served several years as health officer at Strawberry Point and also held the office of school director for a number of years. He is affiliated with the local lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and also that of the Knights of Pythias. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party but he has never sought the honors of political office, as he has considered his profession worthy of his undivided fealty. He is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Cass township. He attends and supports the Congregational church, of which his wife is a zealous member. On the 3d of June, 1885, Dr. Howard wedded Miss Alice Clark, of Dewitt, this state, and she was summoned to the life eternal in 1899. Of the four children of this union, Frank C. died at the age of eight years; William H., M. D., is a graduate of the Hahnemann Medical College, and is now associated with his father in practice, a young man who is well upholding the professional prestige of the name which he bears; Bessie May was graduated in the high school at Strawberry Point and still remains at the paternal home; and Irwin P. is still attending school. In 1901 was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Howard to Miss Aloda Wood, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of H. M. and Mary



(Hanks) Wood, both now deceased. Of this second marriage of the Doctor no children have been born.

**Anton Huebsch** has in his career effectually set at naught any application of the scriptural aphorism that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country," for in his native city of McGregor his secure place in popular confidence and esteem is indicated by his incumbency of the office of postmaster, in which position he has served consecutively since 1913, and in which his administration has been most effective and satisfactory. In the thriving little city that now represents his home Mr. Huebsch was born on the 5th of April, 1871, a son of George and Sarah (Snyder) Huebsch, both of whom were born in the Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, and both of whom were numbered among the sterling German contingent of pioneer settlers in Clayton county, Iowa, where they continued to reside until their death, with secure place in the esteem of all who knew them. George Huebsch was reared and educated in his Fatherland and was a youth at the time of his immigration to America. He remained for a time at Galena, Illinois, and from that place came to Iowa and established his home at McGregor about the year 1858. He was one of the pioneer merchants of this place, where he conducted a grocery store for a number of years, but later he resumed the work of his trade, that of stone mason. He was called from the stage of life's mortal endeavors on the 25th of December, 1897, his devoted wife, who had been a true helpmeet, having passed to eternal rest in September, 1895. Of their children, the eldest is Lena, who is the wife of William T. Minney, of McGregor; George died in childhood; Frances is the wife of Frederick Wehler, of Algona, Kosuth county; John, who is a painter by trade and vocation, resides at McGregor; Anton, of this review, was the next in order of birth; William maintains his residence at Mobridge, South Dakota; Margaret died in infancy; and Frank is employed as a bookkeeper at McGregor. Owing to the exigencies of time and place, the early educational discipline of the present postmaster of McGregor was of limited order, but his alert mentality has enabled him in later years to profit most fully from the valuable lessons ever to be gained in the school of practical experience, so that he has nullified the seeming handicap of his youth. He attended school in his native town until he had attained to the age of twelve years, when he initiated his career as one of the world's productive workers and began to provide for his own livelihood. He worked in a local brickyard for two seasons, and at the age of fifteen years he entered upon a practical apprenticeship in the printing establishment of A. F. Hofer & Sons, publishers of a newspaper at McGregor. With this firm he remained three and one-half years, and the incidental discipline, as has consistently been maintained in such connection, proved virtually the equivalent of a liberal education. At the age of nineteen years Mr. Huebsch initiated his career as a full-fledged journeyman printer. He went to the city of Denver, Colorado, where he found employment at his trade and where he remained two years. He then returned to

McGregor, where for the ensuing six years he held the position of foreman in the printing and newspaper office of J. F. Widman. In June, 1896, Mr. Huebsch purchased the plant and business of the North Iowa Times from O. G. Wall, and of this paper he continued editor and publisher until 1906, when he sold the plant and business at McGregor and went to North Dakota, where he entered claim to a tract of land and instituted the development of the same. Two years later, in 1908, he resumed his residence in his native town, where he effected the repurchase of the North Iowa Times, of which he has since continued editor and publisher and which he has made a most effective exponent of local interests and a potent director of popular sentiment. He has served as postmaster of McGregor since 1913 and both through personal activity and through the medium of his newspaper he has given yeoman service in the furtherance of the cause of the Democratic party. On the 27th of June, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Huebsch to Miss Katherine Geske, who likewise was born and reared at McGregor, and they have three children—Dorothy, Frederick, and Mary Ann. Mr. Huebsch is a progressive and public-spirited citizen who has had much influence in public affairs in his native county.

John A. Huebsch is another of the native sons of Clayton county who are effectively maintaining its high standing in connection with agricultural and livestock industry, and in Section 34, Sperry township, he is the owner of a finely improved landed estate of two hundred and eighty acres, which may consistently be designated as one of the model farms of Clayton county, the place being devoted to well ordered agriculture of diversified order and to the breeding and raising of high-grade live stock. In the township that is now his home, Mr. Huebsch was born on the 20th of May, 1866, a member of a family of 8 children, of whom 5 are now living. He is a son of John A. and Mary (Burkhard) Huebsch, who were born and reared in Germany and who came to Clayton county and became pioneer settlers soon after their arrival in America, in the middle '40s. The father obtained a tract of wild land in what is now Sperry township, and the first home provided was a log cabin of the true pioneer type, as was also the primitive barn which he erected on the place. He reclaimed one of the finely productive farms of the county and here continued his residence, a substantial and honored pioneer citizen, until his death, which occurred in the year 1911. His venerable widow still resides in the county and township that are endeared to her by the gracious memories and associations of the past. John A. Huebsch, Jr., the immediate subject of this review, was reared to manhood on the home farm and has had cause to place in later years high valuation on the incidental discipline which he then received, for the same has contributed definitely to his success as an independent farmer. He made good use also of the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality and period, and in all the years that have since passed it is pleasing to record that he has not wavered in his loyalty to his native county nor lacked in appreciation of its

admirable resources. He takes deep interest in all things pertaining to the communal welfare, served six years as township assessor and several years as a member of the school board, and in politics he has always been arrayed in the ranks of the Democratic party. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. Their attractive home is known for its generous hospitality and their postoffice address is St. Sebald. In 1891 Mr. Huebsch wedded Miss Elizabeth Fliehler, who likewise claims Clayton county as the place of her nativity and of their ten children all are living except Irwin, who was the seventh in order of birth and who died at the age of 8 years. The names of the surviving children are here indicated in respective order of birth: Ida, Arthur C., John F., Oscar M., Lottie, Walter W., Annie, Harold and Maxine. All remain at the parental home except Ida, who is now residing in the city of Dubuque.

**Amos W. Hughes** is a sterling pioneer citizen who finds that his name, Amos Wilson Hughes, singularly enough, combines the surnames of both the Democratic and Republican candidates for the presidency of the United States in the campaign of 1916, and incidentally it may be noted that this fact does not imply any vacillating policy of political allegiance on his part, for he is found a staunch and well fortified advocate of the principles of the Democratic party. Mr. Hughes has been a resident of Clayton county since his boyhood, his parents having here established their home more than sixty years ago. He was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, on the 4th of April, 1849, and is a son of James and Margaret (Stevens) Hughes, both likewise natives of the old Keystone state, where they were reared and educated and where their marriage was solemnized. The lineage of the Hughes family is traced back to staunch Welsh origin and that of the Stevens family to sturdy German stock. In the year 1855 James Hughes came with his family to Iowa and became one of the pioneer settlers in Lomodillo township, Clayton county, where he engaged in the work of his trade, that of carpenter, and where also he became the owner of wild land which he developed into a productive farm, both he and his wife having passed the remainder of their lives in this county and both having been well advanced in years at the time of death. Andrew, the eldest of their children, enlisted as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war and he died while in the gallant ranks of the "boys in blue"; Catherine Jane is the widow of Charles McKinness and resides in the state of Missouri; Amos W., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Ambrose resides at Strawberry Point, this county; Sarah Elizabeth is deceased; Burros resides at Littleport, this county; Hannah Maria and Esther Emma are deceased, as is also Minnie, the youngest of the children. Amos W. Hughes was a lad of about six years at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, where he was reared to manhood and where his educational advantages were those afforded in the pioneer schools. At the age of sixteen years, while serving as engineer in a saw mill, his left arm was caught in a center shaft and the injury was such as to necessitate the amputation of the



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L. L. HULVERSON

arm. For many years thereafter he was engaged in the buying and shipping of live stock, and since 1914 he has been engaged in the grain, feed and coal business at Littleport, a loyal and upright citizen who has secure place in popular esteem. The maiden name of his wife was Isabel Marshall, and she has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of her birth. They have two sons, Warren J. and Raymond.

**Hulverson, Lars L.**, was born in Read township, Clayton county, Iowa, September 22, 1860. He was the son of Lars C. and Mary Hulverson, both natives of Norway, who came to Iowa, settling in Clayton county on a farm, and both of whom are now deceased. The father took an active interest in the affairs of his township, holding several minor offices, and he and his wife were the parents of nine children: John, of Miller, Iowa; Nettie, who is the wife of Andrew Larson of the same place; Christina, married and living in Miller, Iowa; Isabel, the wife of John Faber, of Read township; Gilbert, of Wagner township; Mattie, who is married to H. Nelson, of St. Olaf; and Lars L., who is the youngest of the living children, the two, Nettie and Ole, who were born, later, having died. He received his education in the public schools of his county, remaining on the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age, at which time he was married, and began farming for himself on rented land. Such marked success attended his efforts that he was soon enabled to buy a farm of ninety acres of his own, which he cultivated with equally good results. In 1803 he received the appointment of Superintendent of the county asylum, and conducted the affairs of that institution with such competent ability and fidelity to trust that he was reappointed four different times, holding the position for twenty-four years altogether. He was united in marriage to Isabel Thompson, who died, leaving him with four children: Leona, the wife of John Downy, of Boardman township; George, who is a farmer; Bertha, married to John Stoops, of Read township; and Lawrence, who is still with his father. Mr. Hulverson took for his second wife Mary Lembke, who was born in Clayton county. Mrs. Hulverson is the daughter of Franz Lembke, who was born in Viershof Lauenberg, Germany, and Mrs. Louisa Lembke, nee Louisa Krueger, also of Lauenberg, Germany, being the seventh child in order of birth. May, 1871, they emigrated to America, coming direct to Clayton Center, Iowa, where, on June 17th, 1871, they were united in marriage. Mr. Lembke passed to the other world December 2d, 1913, his wife surviving him nearly two years, passing away May 26th, 1915. They were very prominent and highly thought of in the community and were mourned by a large circle of friends. Mr. Hulverson is a member of the Democratic party, always ready to work to advance its political interests, has served on the town council and is a member of the fraternal order of Modern Woodmen.

**Andrew Hultgren** is one of the sturdy, vigorous and determined men who has not missed the true purposes of life nor waited for circumstance to mould or change his fate. His stewardship has been shown in steadfast integrity, invincible determination and in-



defatigable industry, the result being that in the land of his adoption he has won worthy success and an independent position as one of the essentially representative agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county. He is a scion of the fine Scandinavian element that has contributed greatly to the social and material development and progress of the great northwestern portion of our national domain, and is thoroughly in harmony with American sentiment and institutions; the while he consistently treasures the traditions and honors the history of his native land. He was born at Philipstad, Wermland, Sweden, on the 28th of July, 1861, and is a son of Andrew Hendricksen and Annie (Walberg) Hultgren, both of whom passed their entire lives in that district of Sweden, where the father was a substantial farmer, and both of whom were earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. Of the children the subject of this sketch is the eldest, and the younger is Annie Sophia, who is the wife of Carl Granberg, their home being still in Sweden. He whose name introduces this article gained his early education in the schools of his native land and as a youth he there found employment in iron mines. In 1881, with the determined courage born of worthy ambition, he set forth to seek his fortunes in the United States, where he felt assured of better opportunities for the winning of success through individual effort. Soon after his arrival in America he made his way to Clayton county, Iowa, and established his residence in Mendon township, where for three years he found employment in a saw mill. In the meantime he further showed his spirit and good judgment by attending school when opportunity afforded in order that he might acquire a better knowledge of the English language. After remaining in the county somewhat more than three years Mr. Hultgren went to the city of Chicago, where he found profitable employment and where he remained until 1893, in which year he returned to Clayton county and purchased a farm of forty acres, in Mendon township. Pressing forward to the high mark of his ambitious purpose, he finally sold this property and purchased his present fine landed estate of three hundred and twenty acres, upon which he has made numerous improvements and which he has developed into one of the model farms of Mendon township, his attention being energetically given to diversified agriculture and to the raising of good grades of live stock. Mr. Hultgren has entered fully and loyally into community affairs, is a Republican in his political proclivities and has served effectively as a member of the school board of his district. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he is serving as a deacon, and he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Woodmen of the World. November 24, 1887, recorded the marriage of Mr. Hultgren to Miss Caroline Olson, daughter of Ole and Christine (Beckman) Olson, of Mendon township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Hultgren became the parents of seven children, all of whom are living and still residents of Mendon township except the youngest, Walter, who died in early childhood. The names of the surviving children are here entered in the respective order of

birth: Arthur Otto, Edwin B., Carl W., Elmer G., August C. and John A. The sons are identified with agricultural pursuits in Mendon township, and the eldest son, Arthur O., and his wife are the parents of two children, Alice and Richard. Ole and Christine (Beckman) Olson, parents of Mrs. Hultgren, were born in Jutland, Sweden, where their marriage was solemnized and whence they immigrated to America in 1870. They established their home in Clayton county and still reside on their old homestead farm, in Mendon township, venerable in years and honored by all who know them. Mr. Olson was born July 29, 1835, and his wife on the 22d of June 1842. Both are devoted communicants of the Swedish Lutheran church and he is a stalwart Republican in his political adherence. Of the children, Mrs. Hultgren is the first-born; August has charge of the old homestead farm of his parents; and Hannah died in childhood.

**Humphrey, James T.**, was born in Clayton county on August 23, 1876. He is the son of Lawrence and Mary (Fleming) Humphrey, both natives of Ireland, who came to America in 1862, and settled on a farm in Clayton county. To this union were born ten children: Richard, of Mims, Minnesota; Michael A., of Logan, Iowa; Ella, now the wife of James Ryan of Flemmington, South Dakota; Mathew, and Lawrence B., of Monona; Anna, residing with her mother; Alice, deceased; James T., the subject of this sketch; William F., of Monona, and Emily. The worthy father of this fine family died July 15, 1900, but the mother still lives and resides in Monona. Mr. Humphreys received his education in the public schools of Decorah and Breckenridge Institute at Decorah, Ia. After the completion of his schooling he engaged in farming until he was twenty-eight years of age, taking an active interest in dairy matters, and was made secretary of the Farmers' Creamery of Lowena, Iowa. In 1904 he decided to take up a mercantile business, and accordingly with his brother, Lawrence B., bought out the Walsh and Garrity Implement House at Monona and, under the firm name of Humphrey Brothers, they are conducting a thriving business in all sorts of farming implements. Mr. Humphrey was united in marriage to Miss Grace Cool, September 24, 1913. No children have been born to them. He is affiliated with the Democratic party in politics and has ever taken a keen interest in civic affairs, serving on the city council for four years. He is a member of the fraternal orders of Yeomen, Woodmen and Knights of Columbus.

**Jeremiah P. Hurley** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth, was here reared to the invigorating and benignant discipline of the farm and has here become one of the prominent and influential exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry. Largely through his own energy and well directed enterprise he has become one of the prominent landholders of this section of the state, where he is the owner of a well improved and valuable estate comprising a total of six hundred and eighteen acres, all of which splendid domain receives his careful and effective supervision, the while he maintains his home on a model farm-

stead that is situated in Highland township, near the attractive village of Volga. Mr. Hurley was born in Highland township, this county, on the 1st of September, 1878, and is a son of Barney and Catherine (Neimens) Hurley, the former of whom was born in Ireland and the latter in the state of New York. Barney Hurley was young at the time when he came from the fair old Emerald Isle to America, in the year 1854, and his marriage to Miss Catherine Neimens was solemnized in the year 1873. They became the parents of eleven children, all of whom are living except one. The devoted wife and mother passed to the life eternal on the 22d of March, 1910, and the father passed away on the 8th of February, 1912, the remains of both being laid to rest in the cemetery at Elkader. They were sterling pioneers of Clayton county, where the father became a prosperous farmer, and the memories of both are cherished by all who came within the sphere of their kindly influence, both having been devout communicants of the Catholic church. Jeremiah P. Hurley gained his early education in the public and parochial schools of Clayton county and remained at the parental home until he was nineteen years of age, after which he was employed three years as a farm workman in his native county. He then assumed connubial responsibilities and with his bride, who has proved his devoted companion and helpmeet, he established his residence on a farm which he rented and upon which he continued operations for the ensuing eight years. He then purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Highland township, and with characteristic vigor turned his attention to the operations and improvement of the property, which he still owns and which he has developed into one of the model farms of the county. With increasing financial resources he continued to make judicious investment in the fine land of this favored section of the Hawkeye state, and, as previously stated, he is now the owner of a valuable landed property of six hundred and eighteen acres, the while he has incidental precedence as one of the most progressive and influential exponents of agricultural and live stock industry in this section. Mr. Hurley gives special attention to the breeding and raising of the full blood and registered Percheron horses and also raises other lines of live stock of the best grade. His worthily achieved success offers both lesson and incentive, and he has so ordered his course in all the relations of life as to merit and receive the unqualified respect and good will of his fellow men. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, but he has held no public office save that of member of the school board, as such preferments have no appeal to his ambition. He and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. In the year 1901 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hurley to Miss Anna Meyer, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county and who is one of the four surviving children of Joseph and Elizabeth (Whittle) Meyer, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Iowa, where her parents settled in the early pioneer days. Mr. Meyer is now deceased and his widow still maintains her home in Clayton county. Mr. and Mrs. Hurley have four children—Mary,



Helen, Reta, and Dorothy. The two elder daughters are, in 1916, students in the parochial schools at Elkader.

**James T. Hyde**, blacksmith and implement dealer of Elkader, was born September 20, 1862. His parents were Patrick and Catherine (Kelliber) Hyde, both natives of Ireland, who came to America about 1847, locating first in New York, going thence to Chicago, and later settling in Clayton county on a farm in 1858. The father passed from this life February 7th, 1901, but the mother is still living and resides in Elkader. To their union nine children were born, of whom James was the eldest, followed by Mary Ellen, wife of Thomas Gill, of Oelwein, Iowa; John, Thomas, and Patrick Joseph, all of Elkader; Katie and William, deceased; Anna, who is the wife of E. W. Charleton, of Windsor, Ontario; Leo, residing on a farm near Elkader. James T. learned blacksmithing in his youth, and worked at the trade in various places throughout the state for a number of years, but finally located in Elkader, Iowa, where he and his brother Thomas set up in business for themselves in the same line of work, and have served their patrons with dexterity and despatch for twenty-one years. They have taken their brother Patrick Joseph into partnership with them, and have enlarged the business by becoming dealers in farming implements four years ago under the firm name of Hyde Brothers. They erected a cement block building thirty by sixty-five feet, and three stories high, and to accommodate the rapidly growing needs of their prosperous business, contemplate the erection of another building of the same size this year. James Hyde was married October 19, 1892, to Bessie Johnson, who died July 7, 1905, leaving him with two children, Joseph and Leroy J. He was wedded July 28, 1913, to Louise Royston, widow of M. J. Kelliber. She is a native of Illinois. Mr. Hyde is keenly interested in the welfare of his community and is an active worker in the Corn School of the county. He is equally alert in the service of the Republican party, having served on the City Council, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Hyde is affiliated with the Republican party in politics, and is a consistent member of the Catholic church. Patrick Joseph Hyde, the executive head of the firm, obtained his early education in the public schools of Elkader and of Graham county, Kansas, and on the family's removal to Elkader, in 1897, he entered into the steam laundry business with D. C. Foley. In 1900, severing his connection with Mr. Foley, he entered the wholesale liquor business and, in 1907, together with John Gemmel, bought the Hotel Bayless. In 1909, he bought Mr. Gemmel's interest and continued in the hotel business until 1913, at which time he sold it to Mr. Asay, the present owner. He then entered into partnership with his brothers, and it is largely due to his efforts that the business has grown to be the largest of its kind in Clayton county. In 1903, Mr. Hyde was joined in the bonds of matrimony with Margaret Maley, the daughter of Michael and Katherine (Leonard) Maley, of Elkader, and formerly of Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Maley died in Louisville in 1898 and Mrs. Maley now makes her home with her daughter. Mr. and Mrs.

Hyde are the proud parents of four children: Joseph, 12 years; Margaret, 10; Edwin, 3, and the baby, little Hugh, aged 3 months. Mr. Hyde does not affiliate with any orders, his spare time being devoted to his home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hyde are communicants of the Catholic church.

**John F. Ihde** is an honored representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county and here he has maintained his home from the time of his nativity, the while his entire active career has been one of close and successful identification with the fundamental industries of agriculture and stock growing. He is the owner of one of the finely improved farms of Garnavillo township and his secure vantage place in popular esteem is augured by the fact that he is serving in the office of justice of the peace with characteristic discrimination and loyalty. Mr. Ihde was born in Garnavillo township on the 18th of September, 1858, and thus his memory forms an indissoluble link between the pioneer epoch and the latter day opulent period of prosperity in this county. He is a son of Frederick and Sophia (Klurr) Ihde, who were born and reared in Germany, where their marriage was solemnized and whence they came to America in 1856. In the year that thus marked their arrival in the land of their adoption they became pioneer settlers in Clayton county, where they established their home on the farm now owned by the subject of this sketch. Here the father provided a log cabin as a home for the family, and then energetically set himself to the reclaiming of a farm from the veritable wilderness. Success attended his indefatigable labors and he became with the passing years one of the substantial farmers and influential citizens of his township, the while his progressiveness was shown in the excellent improvements which he made upon his farm as increasing financial resources made this possible and consistent. He finally retired from active labors and he and his wife passed the closing years of their long and useful lives in the village of Garnavillo, both having been devout adherents of the Lutheran church. Of their nine children only three are now living, Frederick, who is a resident of Nebraska; John F., who is the immediate subject of this review; and Lena, who is the wife of A. N. Crawford of Clayton county. John F. Ihde gained his early education in the pioneer schools and continued to assist his father in the work and management of the old homestead farm until he reached his legal majority. He then purchased a farm of one hundred acres in Read township, where he continued his independent activities as a farmer for the ensuing ten years. He then sold the property and purchased his father's old homestead, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres and which is situated in Section 2, Garnavillo township, one of the well improved and fertile farms of the county and one that is given to diversified agriculture and the raising and feeding of good grades of livestock. Mr. Ihde is a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank of Garnavillo, is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party and is now serving as justice of the peace. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran church at St. Olaf, from which village

their pleasant home receives service on rural mail route No. 2. In the year 1879 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Ihde to Miss Anna Thoma, who was born in this county and who is a daughter of William and Margaret Thoma, pioneers to whom individual reference is made on other pages of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Ihde became the parents of nine children, concerning whom the following brief records is entered: Caroline is the wife of George Kurdelmeier; Luella is deceased; Elizabeth is the wife of Frederick Kurdelmeier; Anna is the wife of Richard Hinzma; Lottie is the wife of Herman Wies; Benjamin is a prosperous farmer of this county; and Reuben, John and Amanda remain at the parental home.

**George M. Jacobs** has achieved special success and priority as a raiser of high-grade poultry, and his finely equipped little poultry farm is eligibly situated in immediate proximity to the village of Guttenberg. He was born in this village on the 20th of March, 1873, and is a son of G. Henry Jacobs and Elizabeth (Nolte) Jacobs, the former of whom was born in Mecklenburg-Schweren, Germany, on the 29th of November, 1838, and the latter of whom was born at Bisslagen, Germany, on the 19th of September, 1842. G. Henry Jacobs acquired his early education in the schools of his native land and was a lad of sixteen years when he accompanied his parents on their immigration to America, his father, John Jacobs, becoming a pioneer settler on Cedar creek, Clayton county. G. Henry Jacobs became a man of broad intellectual ken and mature judgment, and he long held a position of prominence and influence in the county that continued to be his home until his death. In the earlier part of his independent career he followed farming for a time, and he then became associated with Clement Schwaller in the general merchandise business at Guttenberg. With this line of enterprise he continued his identification several years, and in the meanwhile he served as postmaster of the village. For about six years thereafter he conducted the Washington Hotel at Guttenberg, and he then engaged in the practice of law, having given careful study to the science of jurisprudence and thus having gained admission to the bar. He continued in the practice of his profession at Guttenberg about twenty-one years, and during much of the time he held the office of notary public. He held inviolable place in popular confidence and esteem, served several years as mayor of Guttenberg, and was an effective advocate of the principles and policies of the Democratic party. His death occurred September 17, 1888, and his widow survived him by nearly a quarter of a century, she having been called to eternal rest on the 21st of May, 1911. Of their children the eldest is Walter G., who resides at Aberdeen, South Dakota; Hugo C. is a resident of Luxemburg, Iowa; the subject of this review was the next in order of birth; Clementine is the wife of Warner Eggerth, of Spokane, Washington, in which city also resides William H., the next in order of birth; Matilda is the wife of William Stretch and they reside in the city of Chicago; and Addie remains at the old home in Guttenberg. George M. Jacobs is indebted to the public schools of Guttenberg for his early educational discipline, and as a youth he found employment in a cigar



factory in his native village. He became an expert cigarmaker and after being employed at his trade in Guttenberg for ten years he was similarly engaged at Charter Oak, this state, for one year. He then returned to Guttenberg, where for the ensuing sixteen years he was engaged in the retail liquor trade, and upon his retirement from this business he established his present prosperous enterprise, in the raising of and dealing in fine poultry. He has served as a member of the city council of Guttenberg and is known as a stalwart in the local camp of the Democratic party. On the 19th of February, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Jacobs to Miss Elizabeth Kickbusch, daughter of Charles and Frederica Kickbusch, of Millville township. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs, Freda and Vivian, the third and sixth in respective order of birth, are deceased, and all of the others remain at the parental home, namely: Walter W., Emma, Irene, Hilda, Helen and George.

**John E. Jacobson**, dealer in general merchandise at St. Olaf, Iowa, was born in Claremont, of that state, June 24, 1873, and is the son of Erick and Belle (Olson) Jacobson, both natives of Norway. The father came to Clayton county, Iowa, in 1860, and took up the vocation of farming, which he followed until his death. To him and his wife, who is also deceased, were born ten children, eight of whom are living: Ole, of Nora Springs, Iowa; Caroline, who is the wife of Ole Koppang, of Claremont, Iowa; Gustave and Jacob, who are twins, the former living at Nora Springs, Iowa, and the latter at Watertown, Wisconsin; Anna, married to Gilbert Ostlie, and living at Claremont, Iowa; Edward, deceased; Emma, wife of John Peterson, of Claremont; John, the subject of this sketch; Mary, who is now Mrs. Nels Larson, of Postville, Iowa; and Eliza, deceased. John E. Jacobson remained on his father's farm until a year after his marriage, when he moved to Claremont, and was employed in a general merchandise business for five years, when he went to Gunder, going into the same line of business for himself. After remaining in that place for another five years, he went to St. Olaf, Iowa, where he started a general merchandise store, the first and only one of its kind in the town. He took H. E. Landsgard into partnership with him in the business, which is being conducted under the firm name of Jacobson and Landsgard, and in its success is a credit to the intelligent effort and efficiency which the partners devote to its upbuilding. Mr. Jacobson married Julia Skarshoug, of Clayton county, and they have reared a family of four children: Hiram E., age 15; Grace B., age 13; Clarence R., age 10; and Louis V., age 6 years. He is a staunch Republican, and in reward for his unswerving and honorable adherence to the principles of his party, was awarded the postmastership of his town, which position he held for five years. He was a school director, and is serving on the City Council at the present time. Both he and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

**Benjamin W. James** is successfully established as a manufacturer and dealer in the best grade of cemetery monuments of granite and marble and in this line of enterprise is the worthy successor

of his honored father, who was one of its pioneer exponents in Clayton county. Mr. James has well equipped business quarters in the thriving city of Guttenberg, and is one of the representative business men and popular and influential citizens of his county. Mr. James was born in Millville township, this county, on the 20th of June, 1863, and is a son of Charles and Amelia (Greybill) James, the former of whom was born in Dillon, Staffordshire, England, August 17, 1826, and the latter of whom was born at Richfield, Pennsylvania, October 4, 1834, coming with her parents, Thomas and Amelia (Womer) Greybill to Guttenberg on May 2, 1842. Charles James, the father of the subject of this sketch, was but four years of age at the time of the family immigration to America in 1830, and his father, Thomas James, first established the family home in the state of New York. Later he resided at Massillon, Ohio, and at Janesville, Wisconsin. He met his death as the result of a ship wreck in Thunder Bay on Lake Huron, dying as the result of the exposure. For many years prior to leaving England he was employed as a mechanic in work on Windsor Castle. Charles James acquired his early education in the schools of New York and Ohio, and at Cleveland he served a thorough apprenticeship to the trade of marble and granite cutting, in which he became a skilled artisan. After leaving the Buckeye state he resided for some time at Galena, Illinois, and was engaged as traveling representative of the R. L. Roseviro Monument Company, now of St. Louis, Missouri. In 1862 he came with his family to Clayton county, Iowa, and established his residence in Millville township, where he became the owner of a small farm and where also he continued actively engaged in the granite business for many years, many fine specimens of his handiwork being found in the various cemeteries of Clayton county at the present day. He died at his old home in Millville township on the 17th of August, 1896, a sterling and honored citizen of the county that had represented his home for more than thirty years. He was a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and was a zealous member of the United Brethren church, as is also his venerable widow, who now maintains her home in the city of Waterloo, this state. Of the children, the subject of this review is the eldest; Ada is the wife of Louis Wentworth, a wholesale lumber dealer and contractor, of Omaha, Nebraska; Hannah is the widow of Caleb Kenyon, and in her home at Waterloo she has the companionship of her loved mother; William is a substantial farmer of Millville township; and Dwight and Esther are deceased. After having duly profited by the advantages of the public schools of his native county, Benjamin W. James gained a higher course of academic discipline by attending Leander Clark College, at Toledo, Iowa. Under the effective direction of his father he gained thorough knowledge of the trade of granite and marble cutting, and he has been successfully established in the monument business and northwest land investment at Guttenberg since 1895, the high grade of his work and the effective service given, having combined to make him one of the leading exponents of this line of business in Clayton

county, where he has ever held impregnable vantage place in popular confidence and esteem. The Republican party has the unswerving allegiance of Mr. James, and though he is loyal and public-spirited as a citizen he has never been troubled by aught of ambition for political office. He is the owner of an attractive home property at Guttenberg, besides his place of business and a tract of valuable land in La Moure and Stutsman counties, North Dakota. He is affiliated with the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he and his wife are zealous and official members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Guttenberg. On the 8th of October, 1894, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. James to Miss Minnie B. McCrum, daughter of Thomas and Martha McCrum, of Earlville, this state, and they have two sons—Paul G., who was born March 20, 1897, is at present superintendent of the Consolidated Schools at Fertile, Iowa, and Dwight, who was born February 21, 1904.

Lawrence Jennings has been a resident of Iowa since he was a lad of about ten years and the fact that he has now passed the psalmist's span of three score years and ten offers conclusive evidence that he is a representative of one of the pioneer families of the Hawkeye State. He has maintained his home in Clayton county since 1855, has been a resourceful exponent of agricultural industry and other lines of enterprise, has achieved definite independence and material prosperity and thus is justified in the enjoyment of the peace and comfort that attend him after his retirement from active labors and when his life begins to see its golden shadows lengthening from the crimson west. He has accounted well for himself and to the world, and is now living virtually retired in the attractive little village of McGregor, where he has association with a host of friends who are tried and true and whose fealty has borne the test of many years. Mr. Jennings was born at Welland, Province of Ontario, Canada, on the 14th of February, 1843, and his parents, Matthias and Mary (Dill) Jennings, were born and reared in Ontario, where the father learned in his youth the trade of cooper, which he there followed in connection with agricultural pursuits until 1853, when he came to Iowa and numbered himself among the early settlers of Jackson county. There he remained until the spring of 1855, when he came with his family to Clayton county and purchased a tract of wild land in Mendon township. There he reclaimed and developed a productive farm, and he also continued in the work of his trade, having established a cooperage on his farm and having found much demand for his productions as a skilled workman at his trade. Eventually he turned his attention to the study of medicine and became a successful representative of the profession in Clayton county, where he continued in active and successful practice, as one of the pioneer physicians of this section of the State until his death, which occurred in 1864, his wife surviving him by several years. Of the children the subject of this review is the eldest; Nancy and Euphemia are widows and both are residents of this State; Sarah, wife of John Kane; Anna, wife of George Kildare, of Seattle, Wash.;



Mrs. Alice Fuller, a widow, resides in the city of Seattle and Harriet and Jasper are deceased. Lawrence Jennings gained his rudimentary education in the schools of his native province, continued his studies during the period of his parents' residence in Jackson county, Iowa, and was a lad of twelve years at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, where he was reared to manhood and where he has continued his residence during the long intervening years, though as a youth he was absent from the county for a time, while in the service of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. He availed himself of the further educational advantages afforded in the pioneer schools of Mendon township, assisted in the work of the home farm and also learned the cooper's trade under the effective supervision of his honored father. Upon attaining to his legal majority he purchased his father's farm and cooperage, and to the management of both enterprises he thereafter giving his attention for a period of ten years, besides which he became a successful contractor in grading work on the line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. After the completion of this contract work he resumed his operations as a farmer in Mendon township, besides which he further showed his initiative ability and progressiveness by engaging in the manufacturing of lumber. He became the owner of an extensive tract of timber land and operated a well-equipped saw mill, in the meanwhile continuing his successful association with the basic industry of agriculture. He became the owner of a fine landed estate of six hundred and forty acres, and this valuable property he later sold. In 1911 he purchased a nice residence property in the village of McGregor, where he and his devoted wife have since maintained their home and where he finds himself, in his days of retirement, compassed by most grateful influences and associations. Mr. Jennings has always given his allegiance to the Democratic party and shown a loyal interest in all things touching the general welfare of the community. Though he has had no ambition for public office he served several years as road supervisor in Mendon township. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and both he and his wife are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal church. On the 12th of October, 1867, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Jennings to Miss Sophrona Caroline Dickens, who was born in Mendon township, this county, on the 28th of August, 1847, the seventh in order of birth of the eleven children of Edward and Anne (Van Sickle) Dickens, honored pioneers of Clayton county, where their old homestead farm is one of the fine places in the Pleasant Ridge district of Mendon township. Mr. Dickens was born in Tennessee and his wife in Ohio. He was one of the very early settlers of Clayton county, where he obtained a tract of government land, in Mendon township, about the year 1835, both he and his wife having passed the remainder of their lives as honored and representative citizens of this county, where he became a prosperous farmer and was influential in community affairs. Of the Dickens children the first two, William and Lucius, are deceased; John W. is a resident of Boise, Idaho; Edward is de-

ceased; Clayton likewise resides in the capital city of Idaho; Robert maintains his home at Red Lake, Minnesota; Mrs. Jennings was the next in order of birth; Harriet is the wife of Clarence Luce, of Republican City, Nebraska; Josephine is the widow of Herbert Cornell and resides at McGregor, Clayton county; Mary Jane is in Yankton, South Dakota, and Lillian is the wife of Joseph Gill, of Sibley, Osceola county, Iowa.

**Henry O. Johnson**, a successful farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Wagner township, is a sterling representative of that fine Scandinavian element of citizenship that has played so large and important a part in the social and industrial development of this county as to make the definite recognition of the scions of the second generation of such families specially consistent in connection with the compilation of this history. Henry O. Johnson was born in Wagner township, this county, on the 9th of July, 1877, and is a son of Ole and Annie Johnson, honored pioneers, concerning whom adequate mention is made on other pages, in the sketch dedicated to their son Otto, so that a repetition of the data is not demanded in the article here presented. Henry O. Johnson is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early educational training, and, with characteristic ambition and determination, he profited fully by the advantages thus afforded him. He continued to be associated in the work and management of his father's farm until 1907, when he purchased his present fine farm, which comprises two hundred and twenty-three acres and which is eligibly situated in Section 28, Wagner township. This model rural domain is improved with substantial and modern buildings and is maintained under a high state of cultivation, with due attention given also to the raising of excellent grades of livestock. Though Mr. Johnson gives general and effective supervision to the various operations of his splendid farm, his health has been much impaired since 1912 and he is unable to do much active work. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he has reason for the faith that is his in politics, for he has studied the questions and issues of the hour and is well fortified in his convictions as to matters of public policy. He is a communicant of the Lutheran church and his name yet remains on the list of eligible bachelors in his native county. His home is but a few miles distant from Elkader, and from the county seat he receives service on rural mail route No. 3.

**John F. Johnson**, president of the St. Olaf's Savings Bank, and farmer and stock raiser of large interests, was born in Wagner township, Clayton county, December 4, 1855. His parents were Fingar and Ingrid (Olson) Johnson, both natives of Norway, who came to America, settling in Clayton county, Iowa, in 1852, where they settled on a farm. His mother died in 1915, but his father is still living on the farm at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. To their union were born seven children: Eliza, wife of Thomas Wold, who is a farmer of Clayton county, in Wagner township; John F., with whom this sketch deals particularly; Clara, deceased; Emma, who is now Mrs. Rugland of Wagner township; Gumrid, living at home; Maria and Henry, deceased. Mr. Johnson is what

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may well be termed a man of affairs, and has been successful in all his undertakings because of the intelligent insight and untiring industry he has brought to bear upon them. He remained on his father's farm until he was twenty-five years of age, when he began his own work in life by buying one hundred and sixty acres of land to which he soon added another one hundred and sixty. He acquired large land holdings in South Dakota and is extensively and profitably engaged in farming and stock raising. His integrity and keen business insight have made him president of the St. Olaf's Savings Bank, and the Republican party to which he belongs has availed itself of his clear judgment in the administration of various township offices. He has been secretary of the school board and is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Tillie Glesne, who was born in Clayton county, and to them have been born seven children, all of whom are still at home: Irene, Helen, Johanna, Frances, Arthur, Oliver and Ruth.

**Johnson, Otto O.**, prominent citizen and cashier of the St. Olaf's Saving Bank, was born October 2, 1871, in Clayton county, Iowa, the son of Ole and Anna (Wold) Johnson. His father was born in Norway, but came to America locating in Clayton county, Iowa, where he owned and conducted a large farm with the greatest success, until his death. His mother was born in Wisconsin and is still living on the home farm. They had an unusual family of thirteen children, all of whom except two are living. Otto, the subject of this sketch, is the eldest; the second child, Olavus, died during the year 1908; Helen is the wife of Louis Larson of Lilly, South Dakota; Johanna, wife of Elmer Ronquist of Clayton county; Bertha, the wife of Herbert Olson of St. Olaf; Rudolph, Benjamin, Elaine, Olvin and Nettie living at home with their mother; and Ruth, deceased. Otto Johnson received his education in the common schools, remaining on the farm until he was 26 years of age. Three years later, in August, 1900, he married Caroline Helgeson, a native of Clayton county, and to them have been born two children—Alenta Josephine and Leroy. In 1900 he was appointed census enumerator for Wagner township and he then spent some time in the hardware business. On September 1, 1903, he was appointed postmaster of St. Olaf, which position he held for twelve years. In 1908 he entered the banking business and in 1915 he resigned his position as postmaster to devote his entire time to the affairs of the bank. In 1904 he was elected township clerk, being re-elected in 1906 and 1908, thus serving the public for three terms. Mr. Johnson has served as town clerk of town of St. Olaf and member of town Council for several terms and at present serving as mayor of said town; also serving as member of school board of the Independent school district of St. Olaf, Iowa. Mr. Johnson has been an ardent Republican at all times, serving several terms as county committeeman and having been honored by his party by the appointment as assistant doorkeeper at the National Republican convention held at Chicago in 1916, at which Hon. Charles E. Hughes was nominated for president. Both Mr.

and Mrs. Johnson are staunch members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, Mr. Johnson serving as trustee. No one man has done more for the enterprising village of St. Olaf than has this capable, alert and affable young business man.

**George S. Jones** is another of the well-known and popular native sons of Clayton county who is well entitled to recognition in this history. He maintains his residence in the attractive village of Edgewood, where he is engaged in business as a contractor in cement construction work and where he is serving with characteristic loyalty and efficiency not only as a member of the village council, but also as trustee of Lodomillo township. Mr. Jones was born in Cox Creek township, this county, on the 18th of February, 1860, and is a son of Albert and Annie (Thomas) Jones, the former a native of the State of New York, and the latter of Wisconsin. Albert Jones established his residence in Clayton county in the year 1859, and when the Civil War was precipitated on the nation he served about one year as a soldier in Company B, Twenty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, his honorable discharge having then been granted to him on account of the impaired condition of his eyes. Both he and his wife passed the closing years of their lives in Dixon county, Nebraska. They became the parents of twelve children, concerning whom brief record is here given: John is deceased; William is a resident of Waterloo, this state; Emma is the wife of Riley Armstrong, of Morningside, Woodbury county, Iowa; James resides at Albany, Illinois; and Frank in the state of South Dakota; Frances died in infancy; George S., of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Florence is the wife of James Bigley and they reside in the state of Nebraska; Seth lives in Kansas; Charles in Wisconsin; and Adelbert at Auburn, Nebraska; and Clinton is deceased. George S. Jones continued to be associated with his father's farming operations until he had attained the age of twenty-four years, and in the meanwhile his educational advantages had been those afforded in the public schools. At the age noted he took unto himself a wife, and soon afterward he and his bride established their home at Edgewood, where they have since resided and where both are held in high popular estimation. Mr. Jones is the owner of about one and one-fourth acres of land in the village, and on the same he has a pleasant home, such success as has been his having been the result of his own energy and well directed efforts. Mr. Jones is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and he has been called upon to serve in various local offices of public trust. He was for three terms the incumbent of the position of road supervisor, served six terms as street commissioner of Edgewood, gave effective service in the offices of constable and village marshal, served two terms as game warden, three terms as superintendent of township roads and three terms as superintendent of county roads. In 1916 he is serving his third term as a trustee of the village council of Edgewood and is also trustee of Lodomillo township. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. March 25, 1885,



recorded the marriage of Mr. Jones to Miss Emma Holmes, and their only child is Leon A., who was born February 28, 1894, and who remains at the parental home; he received a high school education and his childish precocity was shown by his learning the multiplication table when he was but four years old.

**Ernest G. Kaiser** is enlisted as one of the vigorous and resourceful young representatives of mercantile enterprise in his native county and is senior member of the progressive firm of Kaiser & Wiethorn, which bases operations on the ample capital of fifteen thousand dollars and which conducts one of the most attractive and prosperous general merchandise establishments in the village of Monona. Of the junior member of the firm, William B. Wiethorn, individual mention is made elsewhere in this publication. Mr. Kaiser was born in Farmersburg township, Clayton county, on the 4th of December, 1889, and is a son of William and Augusta (Groth) Kaiser, the former of whom was likewise born and reared in this county, a scion of one of its sterling German pioneer families, and the latter of whom was born in Germany, whence her parents came to America when she was a child, they likewise being early settlers of Clayton county. William Kaiser was reared and educated in this county and during his entire active career never severed his allegiance to the basic industry of agriculture, of which he was for many years a prominent and successful exponent in Farmersburg township. A well known and sterling citizen, he is now living retired in the village of Monona. He has been influential in community affairs and is a stalwart in the local camp of the Democratic party, though he has never been troubled by aspiration for political office. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the German Lutheran church. Of their children the first-born was William, who died in childhood; Amelia is the wife of Frederick Drahm, a farmer in Giard township; Julius is now a resident of Topeka, Kansas; Arthur is a progressive farmer in Monona township; Elizabeth died young; Emil is a resident of Larned, Kansas; Arno maintains his home at Monona, as does also Freda, who is the wife of Charles G. Schultz; Ernest G., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Hildegard and Elsie remain at the parental home; Helmuth is deceased; and Edmund, Irene and Raymond are the younger members of the family circle at the parental home. Ernest G. Kaiser continued his studies in the public schools of Clayton county until he had completed a course in the high school at McGregor, and he further fortified himself for the active duties and responsibilities of life by availing himself of the advantages of a business college in the city of Cedar Rapids. He continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority and thereafter devoted two years to work at the carpenter's trade. His initial mercantile experience was gained by a service of one year as clerk in the store of the firm of English & Kaiser, at Monona, and for three months thereafter he was similarly retained in the mercantile establishment of C. J. Orr, of this village. On the 1st of April, 1913, he formed the present partner-

ship alliance with William B. Wiethorn, and under the firm name of Kaiser & Wiethorn they have built up a most substantial and prosperous business at Monona, with a store that is distinctly modern in all appointments and facilities, with departments devoted to dry goods, groceries, men's furnishings, and boots and shoes. Mr. Kaiser is loyal and progressive in his civic attitude as he is as a sterling business man, and he is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. His circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. On the 17th of January, 1912, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kaiser to Miss Sidnie Hupfer, daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Barnhardt) Hupfer, of Giard township, and the two children of this union are: Virgil, who was born April 19, 1913, and Delpha, who was born July 4, 1915.

**John H. Kaiser** has impregnable vantage-place as one of the prosperous and representative farmers and loyal and valued citizens of his native county, where his finely improved homestead farm is eligibly situated in Section 36, Farmersburg township, the splendid property being consistently and picturesquely named Meadow Lark Farm. He is a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county and as adequate data concerning his parents appear in the sketch of the career of his brother, William E. Kaiser, on other pages of this work, it is unnecessary to reproduce the same in the present connection. John Henry Kaiser was born in Farmersburg township, this county, on the 27th of August, 1876, and is a son of John G. and Mary (Wiegmann) Kaiser. In addition to receiving in his youth the advantages of the public schools he prosecuted a course of higher study in the Decorah Institute and in the Minnesota Agricultural College. After attaining to his legal majority Mr. Kaiser left the parental roof and instituted his independent career as a farmer. For nine years he continued his operations on rented land and he then removed to the fine farm which he now owns and which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of most fertile and productive land, in Section 36, Farmersburg township. The substantial and thoroughly modern buildings on the place have been erected by Mr. Kaiser and in addition to this property, considered one of the best improved farms in the county, he is the owner also of one hundred and eighty acres of valuable timber land, lying partly in his home township and partly in Clayton township. He is a stockholder in the Garnaville Savings Bank and the St. Olaf State Bank and the St. Olaf Grain Co., and he is also a land owner in both Minnesota and Oklahoma. He is a stalwart and well fortified supporter of the cause of the Republican party, served several years as president of the school board and takes lively interest in all things pertaining to the community welfare. Both he and his wife attend and support the Lutheran church. In November, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kaiser to Miss Seuera Wirkler, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Joseph and Emma (Meyer) Wirkler, well-known residents of this county and both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser have two children—



Herbert J., who was born August 10, 1907; and Gertrude E., who was born August 20, 1910.

**William E. Kaiser** is one of the extensive agriculturists and stock-growers of his native county and is the owner of a fine landed estate of four hundred and forty-four acres, situated in Section 14, Farmersburg township, about 10 miles distant from the village of McGregor, which is his postoffice address. Mr. Kaiser was born on the old homestead of his father, in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 10th of December, 1880, and was one in a family of seven children, all of whom are living except one. The parents, John G. and Mary (Wiegmann) Kaiser, were both born in Germany and were children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to America. John G. Kaiser became one of the extensive landowners and representative farmers of Clayton county, where he was an honored and influential citizen and where both he and his wife continued to reside until their death. He whose name initiates this review is indebted to the public schools of Clayton county for his early educational discipline, which was effectively supplemented by a course in Dixon College, in the city of Dixon, Illinois, an institution which he attended during two successive winters. He thereafter continued to be associated with his father in the latter's extensive farming operations until he had attained to his legal majority, when he rented of his father the farm which he now occupies and which he later purchased, the same comprising four hundred and forty-four acres and being one of the splendid landed domains of Farmersburg township. With the most progressive methods and policies, Mr. Kaiser has taken an advanced stand in connection with agricultural and live-stock industry in his native county and his enterprising spirit has been shown in the excellent improvements that he has made upon his rural estate, including the erection of a commodious and attractive modern house, which was completed in 1916, and which is one of the ideal country homes of this favored section of the state. In connection with wisely diversified agriculture Mr. Kaiser gives special attention to the breeding and raising of the best types of Jersey and Hereford cattle, and his herds attract much attention by reason of their extent and their manifest superiority. Liberal and public-spirited in his civic attitude, Mr. Kaiser is always ready to lend his influence and practical co-operation in the furtherance of measures projected for the general good of the community, and the year 1916 finds him serving loyally and efficiently not only as township trustee but also as secretary of the school board of his district. He is alert in his association with the varied affairs of general importance in the community and is vice-president of the Clayton County Fair Association, his political allegiance being given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church, the while their unqualified popularity indicates the high estimate placed upon them in their native county, their attractive home being a center of refined and gracious hospitality. Mr. Kaiser has achieved unqualified success in his independent career as a representative of the great basic industries



of agriculture and stock-raising and is consistently to be designated as one of the leading farmers of Farmersburg township. On December 17, 1906, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kaiser to Miss Verone Mohrman, who was born and reared in Clayton county and who is a daughter of William and Amelia (Schumacher) Mohrman, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Iowa, and both still residents of Garnaville township, the father being a carpenter. Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser are the parents of three children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here entered: Lois K., September 17, 1907; Lloyd W., July 2, 1909; and Bernice L., December 29, 1915.

**Henry Kamm** has resided upon his present fine farm, in Buena Vista township, since he was a young man of twenty-one years, and during this long period of more than half a century he has stood exponent of energy and progressiveness in connection with his farming operations and of the best type of loyalty and public spirit as a citizen. He is one of the sterling men who have aided in the industrial and social development and advancement of Clayton county and is eminently entitled to recognition in this history. Mr. Kamm was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, in the year 1842, and is one of the three surviving children of David and Agnes Kamm, who passed their entire lives in Germany. In the excellent schools of his native land Henry Kamm received his early educational discipline and about the time of attaining to his legal majority he severed the ties that bound him to home and Fatherland and set forth to win for himself independence and prosperity in the United States. Soon after his arrival in this country he came to Clayton county and purchased his present farm, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres and which has been developed and improved under his zealous and effective direction. He is unwavering in his support of the principles of the Republican party and his loyal interest in local affairs was signified by the specially effective service which he accorded during his three years' incumbency of the office of township trustee. He and his family hold membership in the Lutheran church. On the 23d of March, 1871, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hy. Kamm to Miss Mary Bockel, who is a daughter of Henry and Maggie Bockel, natives of Germany.

Mr. and Mrs. Kamm became the parents of six children, of whom the eldest, Robert, is now a resident of the city of Dubuque; Emma is the wife of W. H. Magee of Manchester, Iowa; Henry is deceased; Marie is the wife of A. C. Noggle of North Buena Vista, Iowa; Joseph is employed in the village of North Buena Vista, and George is at the parental home.

**Frederick W. Kann** is a scion of the third generation of the Kann family in Clayton county, where his paternal grandfather established his home about three-fourths of a century ago, and the family name has been most effectively concerned with the record of civic and industrial development and progress in this section of the Hawkeye state, with Frederick William Kann holding such status as a loyal and honored citizen and representative farmer as to well uphold the prestige of the name which he bears. He was



FREDERICK W. KANN AND WIFE

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born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 12th of September, 1849, and is a son of William and Mary Kann, both natives of Germany—the father having been born in Prussia and the mother in the Kingdom of Hanover, and their marriage having been solemnized in Clayton county. William Kann came with his parents to America in the early '40s, and his father, Gottfried Kann, became one of the very early settlers in Jefferson township, Clayton county, where he reclaimed a farm and where he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. William was reared and educated in his native land and was a young man at the time of the immigration to America. After coming to Clayton county he entered claim to one hundred and sixty acres of government land, in what is now Jefferson township, and he rose to prominence and influence as one of the substantial farmers and sterling citizens of this county, where he died about 1908 at a venerable age, his devoted wife having been summoned to eternal rest on the 16th of May, 1898, and both having been life-long communicants of the Catholic church. Of their children, the subject of this review is the eldest; Henry, Catherine, Mary and Mary (second of the name) are deceased; Joseph is a resident of Minot, North Dakota; Annie is the wife of William Uriell, of Read township, Clayton county; and Hubert maintains his home in the state of Oklahoma. Frederick W. Kann gained his early education in the pioneer school of district No. 6, Jefferson township, and continued to assist in the work of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-eight years. For two years thereafter he farmed on rented land, and he then purchased a farm of his own, but he later sold this property. From that time forward he continued operations on a rented farm until he purchased his present fine landed estate, which comprises three hundred and thirty acres, and which constitutes one of the model farms of Jefferson township. The place is equipped with permanent improvements of the best order, and a number of the buildings have been erected by the present energetic and progressive owner, the farm being given over to wisely ordered operations in the line of diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of horses, cattle and swine. Like his honored father, Mr. Kann is found aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Catholic church. May 16, 1878, recorded the marriage of Mr. Kann to Miss Dina Berns, who was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 16th of December, 1853, and whose early education was acquired in the Catholic parochial schools at Guttenberg. She is a daughter of Henry and Annie (Knueber) Berns, who were sterling pioneers of Jefferson township. The father was born at Hoghlar, Bezirf, Münster, Germany, on the 20th of September, 1817, and the mother at Hillen Regierungsbezirk, Münster, in Westphalen, on the 17th of January, 1819. The parents of Mrs. Kann were married in their native land and immigrated to the United States in 1847. Shortly after their arrival in America they came to Iowa and became pioneer settlers of Jefferson township, Clayton county, where they passed the residue

of their long and worthy lives, the father having passed to eternal rest on the 29th of May, 1889, and the mother having been venerable in years at the time of her death, which occurred June 26, 1900. Both were devout communicants of the Catholic church and in politics Mr. Berns was a Democrat. Of their children, the eldest is Mary, who resides in Garnavillo township and who is the widow of Xavier Schaefer; Henrietta, Theodore and Herman are deceased; Mathilda has consecrated her life to service as a member of one of the gracious sisterhoods of the Catholic church and is known as Sister Constantine, her place of residence being the city of Chicago; Henry is deceased; and Elizabeth, the widow of John Wolter, resides in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota. In conclusion is entered brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Kann: Edward died in childhood; Arthur H. remains at the parental home and is associated in the work of the farm; Richard J. is a representative of agricultural industry in Jefferson township; Amanda is the wife of Edward Griffin, of Freeport, Illinois, and they have two children, Bernice and Stanley; Rose is the wife of Edward C. Meier, of Osterdock, Clayton county, and they have two children, Jerome and Dolores; Hubert H. and Gregory X. are associated in the work of their father's farm; and Stella is the wife of Andrew Matt, of Vermillion, S. D., their one child being a son, Wayland Paul.

**Vina Katschkowsky.**—While Clayton county, at the primary election in 1916, gave more than one thousand majority against the extension of suffrage to women, the men of the county had already shown their faith in womanhood and their willingness to recognize good and efficient service, by either man or woman, by the election of Miss Vina Katschkowsky as recorder for Clayton county. This was done at the election in 1914, when Miss Katschkowsky was elected by a handsome majority. In doing this, the voters did not find their confidence misplaced, for Miss Katschkowsky has shown herself to be industrious, capable, accommodating and highly efficient. As a result of this good work there was no opposition to her re-election in 1916. Miss Katschkowsky is a Clayton county product, having been born in Elkader, in 1891. She is the daughter of Adolf K. and Elizabeth (Musfeldt) Katschkowsky. Her father was born in Germany and came to America in 1871, going first to Cleveland, Ohio, where he was employed in various capacities. He was the first of his family to come to the "land of the free," his parents arriving in America a year later. In 1875 he came to Iowa, settling at Elkport, where his parents made their home. Shortly afterward he moved to Elkader, where he now resides. In 1879 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Musfeldt and to them five children were born: Minnie, Adolf, Jr., Louis, Vina, the subject of this sketch, and Freda. Miss Vina had her preliminary education in the public school, later attending the Elkader High School, and then entering business life as a clerk in Poull & Bink's general store. About a year later she was appointed to the position of assistant to County Recorder J. W. McLaughlin, filling the position most acceptably for four years, and obtaining a thorough and com-

prehensive knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of the recorder's office. At the insistent request of her friends in the court house as well as of influential friends throughout the county, she was induced to allow her name to be placed on the Democratic ticket as a candidate for county recorder in the election of November, 1914, being elected by a large majority. That she has given entire satisfaction to the public is evidenced by the unanimous desire for her re-election. Miss Katschkowsky is a young lady of charming personality. She is deservedly popular on account of her bright vivacity and her cheerful and friendly disposition, and she has a very wide acquaintance throughout the county. While giving full time to the work of her office, Miss Katschkowsky's interests are not all confined to her official duties and she takes an active part in all the social events which transpire among the young people of Elkader. Her life record certainly shows what can be accomplished by a young woman of intellect and integrity and proves that a woman can be safely entrusted in the most responsible positions.

**Frederick Keeling** is another of the native sons of Clayton county who has won definite success and precedence in connection with agricultural and live-stock enterprise, and though he still owns his splendidly improved farm he now rents the property and is living practically retired in the attractive home which he has provided in the village of Volga. He is a stockholder in the creamery company at Volga, a stockholder in the Volga Savings Bank, and is a member also of the Farmers' Live Stock Commission Company at this place. Mr. Keeling was born in Highland township, this county, on the 30th of August, 1863, and is a son of John and Mary (Fletcher) Keeling, who were born and reared in England, where their marriage was solemnized. About 1850 the parents came to the United States and after having resided for the first decade in the state of New York they came to Clayton county, Iowa, and established their home on a pioneer farm. John Keeling developed one of the splendidly productive farms and continued to reside on his old homestead, situated in Highland and Sperry townships, until his death, his wife also having died on the old home place. Of their five children two are now living. Frederick Keeling made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county, and after initiating his independent career he conducted operations on a rented farm for several years. He then purchased the property, in Section 5, Sperry township, and on this splendidly improved farm of two hundred and forty acres he continued to reside until 1914, when he retired from the active labors that had long engrossed his attention and given him substantial prosperity, and he has since maintained his home in the pleasant village of Volga. He is now serving as township trustee, is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and he and his wife became zealous members of the Volga Presbyterian church, of which he is an elder. In 1884 Mr. Keeling wedded Miss Margaret Robinson, who was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, whence her parents, William and Margaret (Galier) Robinson came



over into the United States in 1865; they finally established their home in Clayton county, and here they passed the residue of their lives. No children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Keeling, and the supreme loss and bereavement of his life came when his devoted wife was summoned to eternal rest, her death having occurred on the 1st of December, 1914, and her remains being laid to rest in the cemetery at Volga. She was a woman of most gentle and gracious personality and held the high regard of all who came within the compass of her influence.

**William Keleher** is another of the native sons of Clayton township who can legitimately claim to be a representative of a pioneer family of this section of the Hawkeye State and who has proved himself possessed of those elements of character that conserve individual success as well as prompt objective confidence and good will. In his native county he has found scope and opportunity for the achieving of a secure vantage-ground as an exponent of the all-important industries of agriculture and stock-raising, his present attractive homestead comprising one hundred and sixty acres in Section 28, Boardman township, and the same giving patent evidence of the owner's policies of thrift and progressiveness. On the old pioneer homestead farm of his father, in Section 34, Boardman township, Mr. Keleher was born on the 5th of March, 1861, and the high estimation in which he is held in the community sets at naught in his case any application of the scriptural aphorism that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country." He is a son of Thomas and Mary (Dureen) Keleher, both natives of the fair Emerald Isle and representatives of staunch old families of Erin. Thomas Keleher was a lad of nine years at the time when he accompanied his parents on their immigration from Ireland to the United States, and he was reared to maturity in the State of New York. About the time of attaining to his legal majority he came to Iowa and constituted himself one of the pioneers of Clayton county. Here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in the present township of Boardman, and not only did he reclaim this tract to effective cultivation but he also evinced his cumulative prosperity by adding to his original purchase until he became the owner of a valuable landed estate of three hundred and twenty acres. He continued to hold this property until his death, which occurred in June, 1906, and his name shall be long honored as that of a sterling pioneer who did well his part in furthering the social and industrial development and upbuilding of Clayton county. He was influential in public affairs of a local nature and was called upon to serve in various township offices. His first wife, mother of the subject of this review, was summoned to eternal rest in 1878, and of their seven children William, to whom this article is dedicated, was the first born; Jerry owns and resides upon the old homestead farm of the father; James is a resident of Clermont, Fayette county; Catherine died when young; Anna remains with her brother Jerry on the old homestead; Frank is another of the prosperous farmers of Boardman township; and Edward is a resident of Marcus, Cherokee county. For his second wife the father

wedded Miss Hannah Roach, and she too is now deceased, as is also John, the eldest of their children; May and Stell maintain their home in the city of Chicago; and Chloe remains at the old homestead farm. Availing himself duly of the advantages afforded in the common schools of the locality and period, William Keleher was reared to manhood under the conditions and influences of the pioneer farm, in the work and management of which he continued to be associated with his father until he had attained to the age of twenty-five years. For three years thereafter he was engaged in farming on a tract of two hundred and twenty acres which he rented, on Turkey river, and he then removed to the Hyde farm, in Boardman township, which he later purchased. To this place of fifty acres he subsequently added by the purchase of an adjoining tract of one hundred and ten acres. He brought his farm up to a high state of productiveness, made excellent improvements of a permanent order, and there continued to reside for the long period of twenty-two years, at the expiration of which he sold the property to his brother Frank and purchased his present fine homestead, in Section 28 of his native township, upon which he established himself in the spring of 1913 and upon which he has since continued his successful enterprise as a general farmer and stock-grower. Mr. Keleher has taken a lively interest in community affairs and has never wavered in his loyalty to and appreciation of his native county. He has served as township trustee and road supervisor, as well as a director of the school board of his district, and he accords a stalwart allegiance to the cause of the Democratic party. His home is known for its generous hospitality and good cheer, is modern in its equipment and appointments, and receives mail service on rural route No. 2 from Elkader. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. On the 24th of November, 1891, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Keleher to Miss Mary Hoover, who was born and reared in Clayton county and who is a daughter of Julius and Margaret (Stence) Hoover, now residents of San Angelo, Texas. Her father was born in Pennsylvania and her mother is a native of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Keleher have three children—Florence M., who is a successful and popular teacher in the public schools of her native county; and Grace M. and Thomas Leo, who remain at the parental home.

**John R. King**, who conducts a prosperous business as a dealer in coal, feed and implements at Strawberry Point, was born in Fayette county, this state, on the 28th of June, 1876, but was a boy of 13 years at the time of his parents' removal to Clayton county, where he was reared and educated and where his energy and enterprise have gained to him substantial success as one of the sterling and popular business men of Strawberry Point. He is a son of James and Phoebe (Wright) King, both of whom were born in the Province of Ontario, Canada. The father was a carpenter by trade but during the last thirty years of his life he was engaged in the lumber business at Strawberry Point, where his death occurred on the 5th of October, 1910, and where his widow still maintains her home. Thomas, the first-born of their children, is de-

ceased; Mary is the wife of H. H. Oppermann, of Strawberry Point; Albert W. is engaged in the lumber business at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the subject of this review is the youngest of the number. John R. King gained his early education in the public schools and at the age of fifteen years he began his apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade. Later he learned the trade of telegraphist, and for two years he was employed as an operator in the service of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company. At the age of twenty-five years he took unto himself a wife, and for two years thereafter he and his wife conducted a hotel at Strawberry Point. He then removed to a farm owned by his father in Cass township, and there he continued his successful activities as an agriculturist and stock grower for ten years, at the expiration of which he returned to Strawberry Point and established his present thriving business enterprise, the same being based upon effective service, fair and honorable dealings and the personal popularity of the proprietor. Mr. King gives his support to the cause of the Democratic party, has received the three degrees of the ancient craft Masonry, being affiliated with the lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons in Strawberry Point, where he also holds membership in the Modern Brotherhood of America. On the 4th of April, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. King to Miss Mary E. Moine, who was born and reared in this county, and they have three children, Myrtle, Harold M. and Don L.

**Rufus G. Kinsley** is a native son of Clayton county, a member of one of the honored pioneer families of this favored section of the Hawkeye state, and has achieved prominence and influence as one of the progressive farmers and business men of the county to which he pays unflinching allegiance and of whose splendid resources and attractions he is deeply appreciative. Mr. Kinsley is a scion of a staunch old family that was founded in New England in the colonial days and that in later generations sent forth its sturdy sons to follow the star of empire in its western course. He was born in Giard township, Clayton county, on the 15th of September, 1871, and is a son of Guy and Lucinda (Ellsworth) Kinsley, both natives of the state of Vermont, where they were reared and educated and where their marriage was solemnized on the 15th of March, 1853. Guy Kinsley was born at Fletcher, Franklin county, Vermont, on the 12th of February, 1825, a son of Benjamin A. and Katherine (Montague) Kinsley. He was reared to the sturdy discipline of a New England farm, received a good common school education in the old Green Mountain state and as a young man of twenty-five years, in 1850, he came to the west and numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa. Here he bent his energies to the reclaiming and development of a farm and he eventually became one of the prosperous and influential agriculturists and representative citizens of Giard township. He celebrated in the spring of 1916 his ninety-first birthday anniversary, and since his retirement from the active labors and responsibilities that long marked his energetic and useful career he has lived retired in the city of McGregor, where he and his wife, are enjoying the comfort



and gracious prosperity that is justly their due. Both are earnest members of the Baptist church and they have the respect and veneration of the people of the county in which they have maintained their home for more than sixty years. Mrs. Kinsley is a daughter of Aaron Ellsworth, who was a substantial farmer of Vermont. On coming to Clayton county Guy Kinsley obtained a tract of government land, and this he developed into one of the fine farms of this section of the state, the while he contributed also to the social, educational and religious upbuilding of the community. Of the eleven children the subject of this sketch was the ninth in order of birth; Lucy, the firstborn, is now a resident of Wheaton, Minnesota; Frank maintains his home at McGregor; Amanda is wife of Dr. Renshaw, of Monona, this county; Fannie is the wife of George Hill, of Springfield, Missouri; Cora is the wife of Eustace Renshaw, of Estherville, Emmett county, Iowa; Benjamin resides at McGregor; Alice maintains her home at Marshalltown, this state; Margaret is the wife of Louis Kramer, of McGregor; J. D. resides at Lisbon, Linn county; and Prudence is deceased. Rufus G. Kinsley is indebted to the public schools of Clayton county for his early educational discipline, which was supplemented by higher courses in the Breckenridge school, and the Valparaiso University, at Valparaiso, Indiana. As a youth he taught two terms in the district schools of Clayton county, and thereafter he was for a time engaged in the buying of grain for the firm of Gilchrist & Moore. He then engaged in the farm-implement business at Monona, where he continued his association with this line of enterprise for a period of eight years. For the ensuing eight years he was there engaged in the hardware business, and he then retired from mercantile life and removed to his present fine homestead farm, which he had purchased some time prior to retiring from the mercantile business at Monona. His farm comprises three hundred and sixty acres, is equipped with the best of permanent improvements and is one of the model places of the county. In connection with well ordered agricultural enterprise of a diversified order, Mr. Kinsley has developed a specially prosperous dairy business on his farm, where he maintains a fine herd of eighty head of thoroughbred Jersey cattle. He is a director of the Citizens' State Bank of Monona, and in that village he is associated with his brother Benjamin in the ownership and operation of a successful handle factory, he having been one of the founders of this important industrial enterprise of Clayton county. In politics Mr. Kinsley designates himself a Progressive Republican, and he has been called upon to serve in various township offices. While a resident of Monona he served as a member of the board of education and also as township clerk. His postoffice address is McGregor, and from that village he receives service on one of the rural mail routes. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and is one of the progressive, wideawake and popular citizens of the county that has ever represented his home and in which he has achieved distinctive success through his well ordered activities. On the 4th of April, 1906, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kinsley to Miss

Jessie L. Killen, daughter of John Killen, of Monona, and they have two sons—John, who was born January 9, 1907, and Robert, who was born September 30, 1908.

**Kleinpell, W. F.**, hardware merchant of Elkader, Iowa, was born in Cassville, Wisconsin, December 10, 1864, and was the son of Carl and Louisa (Wagner) Kleinpell, both natives of Germany, who came to America in 1850, locating at Freeport, Illinois, where they lived about eight years before finally locating in Cassville, Wisconsin. The father was a harnessmaker by trade, which occupation he followed for some years, but later went into general merchandizing. He died in Cassville, but his wife is still living in that town, a well known and competent woman, and where, during the administrations of Grant and Hayes, she held the position of postmistress. To their union was born a large family of children, the first three of whom are dead. The oldest living child is Julius, who is a dealer in lumber in Cassville, Wisconsin; our subject comes next in the point of age and is followed by Amelia, who died at the age of fifteen; Henry, a physician of Chicago; Walter, deceased; Freda, living at home with her mother, and Reinhardt, of Flint, Michigan. At the age of fourteen years, W. F. Kleinpell left home and began to make his own way in the world, going first to Freeport, Illinois, where he served an apprenticeship of two and a half years to a machinist, after which he went to Elkport, Iowa, for two years, and to Cassville, Wisconsin, for three years, in both of which places he engaged in a general merchandise business. In 1887 he moved to Elkader, Iowa, where he conducted a hardware store for a firm that he afterwards bought out and has continued in the business with such great success that he has enlarged it by adding heating and plumbing departments. He was married January 18, 1888, to Minnie Schmidt, who was born in Clayton county, and is a daughter of J. B. and Carrie (Hartman) Schmidt. Two children have been born to them: Louise Caroline, born in 1890, now the wife of C. F. Murphy, of Elkader; and Dorothy Ella. Mr. Kleinpell is a democrat, has served on the city council and on the school board, and is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

**Henry Klinkenberg** is a scion of a pioneer family that has played a large and benignant part in the industrial and civic development and upbuilding of Clayton county and the place of his nativity was the finely improved farm of two hundred and forty acres which he now owns and makes his place of residence, the same being eligibly situated in Section 29, Farmersburg township, about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles distant from the village of St. Olaf, which is the postoffice address of the family. Mr. Klinkenberg was born March 28, 1874, and is a son of Carl and Dorothy (Mandelkow) Klinkenberg, both of whom came from their native land, Germany, to America in the year 1857. That year marked their arrival in Clayton county, Iowa, and they became pioneer settlers on an embryonic farm in Farmersburg township. In 1863, Carl Klinkenberg purchased a tract of forty acres of wild land in Reed township, and through his industry and good management he was so significantly prospered that he was eventually able to claim as his

own a valuable landed estate of thirteen hundred acres, of a considerable portion of which he has now disposed, though he continues to maintain his residence on his original homestead place and continues a prominent and honored exponent of agricultural industry in the county that has been the stage of his worthy and successful endeavors as one of the world's productive workers. His devoted wife, who proved a faithful helpmeet, is now deceased, she having been a devout communicant of the Lutheran church, as is also Mr. Klinkenberg, and of their nine children, six are living. Henry Klinkenberg is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early educational discipline and he continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the latter's large landed estate until his marriage, after which he rented one of his father's farms. This property he later purchased and it constitutes his present fine homestead of two hundred and forty acres, maintained under effective cultivation and given over to diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of live stock. The permanent improvements on the place are of substantial and modern order and Mr. Klinkenberg is the owner also of twenty-three acres of timber land in Reed township. His political support is given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Farmersburg. In June, 1901, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Klinkenberg to Miss Bertha Kurth, who was born in the state of South Dakota, and who is a daughter of William and Lena (Schroder) Kurth. The parents were born in Germany and came to the United States in 1882, in which year they established their home in South Dakota. They later came to Clayton county, Iowa, where they still reside. Of their seven children all are living except one. Mr. and Mrs. Klinkenberg have two children—Fritz William, who was born February 26, 1902, and Alvin G., who was born June 15, 1911.

**Herman Klinkenberg** is essentially one of the representative factors in connection with the promotion of the agricultural and live-stock interests of his native county and in addition to his ownership of a most fertile and productive landed estate of four hundred acres in Wagner township he owns also a well improved tract of two hundred and seventy-five acres near New Hampton, Chickasaw county. He is a scion of one of the well known and influential pioneer families of Clayton county, and concerning his father more specific mention will be found on other pages of this work. Mr. Klinkenberg was born at Farmersburg, this county, on the 25th of December, 1864, and is a son of Charles and Dora (Maulks) Klinkenberg, both of whom were born in Germany. Charles Klinkenberg was reared to manhood in his fatherland, where he received good educational advantages in his youth, and as a young man of twenty-five years he manifested the courage of his conviction by immigrating to America, with assurance that in the United States he would find better opportunities for the achieving of independence and advancement through individual effort. He became one of the early settlers of Clayton county, where he labored with characteristic energy and zeal in the reclaiming of a farm from



the untrammelled prairie and where he became one of the substantial agriculturists and influential and honored citizens of Farmersburg township, where he still resides, his wife having been summoned to the life eternal in June, 1915. Of their nine children, the eldest is August, who resides at Elkader, this county; Minnie is the wife of Charles Radlif, of Farmersburg; Herman, of this review, was the third child; William is a prosperous farmer in Farmersburg township; Lena is deceased; Mary is the wife of John Maddens, of Grand Meadow township; Henry B. is a substantial exponent of agricultural industry in Farmersburg township; and two sons died in infancy. To the public schools of his native county Herman Klinkenberg is indebted for his early educational discipline, and he continued his active association with the operations of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-five years, when he instituted his independent career as a farmer and stock-grower on his present home place. Energy, circumspection, thrift and wise policies have characterized his activities in this important domain of industrial enterprise, of which he has become one of the prominent and influential representatives in this part of the State, his homestead place, of four hundred acres, being eligibly situated in Section 36, Wagner township, and the supplemental area of two hundred and seventy-five acres being represented in his farm near New Hampton, Chickasaw county, as previously noted in this context. He has proved himself an ambitious, progressive and farsighted agriculturist, always ready to avail himself of improved machinery, scientific methods and approved modern facilities of every sort, the while he has regarded his chosen vocation as well worthy of his undivided time and attention, his progressiveness has extended also into his relations to community affairs, and he has given his influence and co-operation in the furtherance of measures projected for the general good, along both civic and material lines. His political convictions are indicated by the unwavering allegiance which he accords to the Democratic party, and while he has had no ambition for public office his civic loyalty has caused him to give most effective service in the position of school director, of which office he is still the valued incumbent, in 1916. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at St. Olaf, which village is their postoffice address. On the 19th of June, 1890, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Klinkenberg to Miss Minnie Mueller, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of John and Minna (Meyer) Mueller, both natives of Germany. Mr. Mueller established his residence in Clayton county in the pioneer days, became a successful farmer and honored citizen and there continued to reside until his death, which occurred April 27, 1906, his widow now maintaining her home at Farmersburg. They became the parents of twelve children, of whom the eldest is Henry, of Farmersburg township; Lena is the widow of Henry Harnish; Mrs. Dora Frederick and her husband reside at Emmettsburg, Palo Alto county, this State, as does also John; Mrs. Klinkenberg was the next in order of birth; Frederick is a resident of Farmersburg township; Mary is the wife of William Klinkenberg, of that town-

ship, where also resides Louisa, the wife of Charles Schmidt; William lives in the village of Farmersburg; Annie is the wife of August Kahle, and they maintain their home in Minnesota; Bertha is the wife of Mine Dickinson, of Emmettsburg, Iowa; and Martha is the wife of Charles Faber, of Ionia, Chickasaw county. Mr. and Mrs. Klinkenberg became the parents of four children: Lucy is the wife of Arthur Schmidt, of Wagner township; Bertha and Frederick died in childhood; and Mathilda Marguerite remains at the parental home.

**Henry J. Klotzbach** takes justifiable satisfaction in claiming Clayton county as the place of his nativity and in being a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of the county, the name of which he bears, having been identified with the history of this favored section of the State for more than sixty years and having been worthily connected with the record of both civic and industrial development and progress. He resides upon the well improved old homestead farm, in Giard township, and is the owner of this farm of forty acres. He was born October 16, 1865. As a progressive and wideawake farmer he gives his attention to diversified agriculture and stock-growing, and he is one of the substantial and valued exponents of these important lines of industrial enterprise in his native county. Mr. Klotzbach is a son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Heisner) Klotzbach, both of whom were born in Germany and both of whom were representatives of that admirable German element of citizenship that has played so important a part in the development of the resources of Clayton county. Nicholas Klotzbach immigrated from his Fatherland to the United States in 1844, and he became a farmer in Lorain county, Ohio, where he continued his activities until 1855, when he came to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county. On the farm now owned and occupied by his son Henry J., of this review, he industriously applied his energies, and he reclaimed his land from the virgin wilds, made substantial improvements of a permanent order and eventually accumulated an estate of about eighty acres. He continued his identification with farm industry in Giard township until the close of his long, worthy and useful life, and passed to eternal rest on the 23rd of October, 1905, his devoted wife soon following him, as her death occurred December 28, 1907. Both were devoted members of the Reformed Church and he was a staunch Democrat in his political proclivities, with a deep appreciation of the institutions and advantages of the land of his adoption. He was influential in community affairs and served for a number of years in the office of township trustee. At the old homestead remain the two eldest children, Misses Martha and Elizabeth, **who** are held in affectionate esteem by all who know them; Louisa is the wife of Charles L. Luckerman, of McGregor, this county; Lena is the wife of Frank C. Butts, of Farmersburg township; Edward remains with his sisters on a portion of the old homestead farm; Henry J., immediate subject of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; William is a prosperous farmer in Mendon township; George died in the year 1909; and Julia is the wife of Louis H. Haefner,

their home being in the State of Montana. Henry J. Klotzbach was reared to the sturdy discipline of the farm and in addition to receiving the advantages of the local schools he attended for a time the public schools in the city of Galena, Illinois. As a youth he clerked for a time in a general store at Giard, at which place he later became an expert workman in a creamery, this same vocation having later found him a representative at Farmersburg. In 1896 he purchased his present farm of forty acres, which is a part of the old homestead of his honored father, and here he has found ample scope for effective enterprise as an agriculturist and stock-grower, in connection with which he has achieved substantial success and prosperity, with the result that he may consistently be designated one of the representative farmers of his native county. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, and he has been called upon to serve in various local offices of public trust—preferments that fully attest the high estimate placed upon him by the people of his home community. He held for eight years the position of township assessor, was secretary of the school board of his district for nine years, was township clerk for eight years, and with marked efficiency, the judicial office of justice of the peace, and he has served consecutively since 1904 as road superintendent of his township. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, and his religious views are in harmony with the tenets of the Reformed Church, in the faith of which he was reared. Mr. Klotzbach is a bachelor and his two maiden sisters preside over the home.

**John Klotzbach** marked the course of his life with earnest and worthy endeavor and gave to the world assurance of integrity and uprightness in all things. He was one of the honored German pioneer citizens of Clayton county and here achieved independence and substantial prosperity through his well ordered association with agricultural industry. He was a resident of the county for more than half a century, and on his fine homestead farm, in Giard township, his death occurred on the 27th of January, 1907. His place in the community life was not one of ostentation, but he lived and labored to goodly ends and was faithful and true in all of the relations of life, so that he commanded to the fullest degree the confidence and good will of his fellow men, the while he contributed his part to the social and material development and upbuilding of the county that was long his home and in the history of which his name and works merit recognition. Mr. Klotzbach was born in Germany on the 18th of September, 1834, and thus was in his seventy-third year at the time of his death. In his Fatherland he gained his early education and he was a lad of about fourteen years when he came with his parents to America. He resided in the state of Ohio until 1852 and there worked at the cobbler's trade, as did he also for a time after coming to Clayton county, Iowa, in the year last mentioned. Finally he purchased a tract of one hundred and twenty acres of land in Giard township, where he developed a productive farm, later adding eighty acres to its area. Through energy and well directed industry he developed one of the fine farms of the county, and to its active management he continued to give his



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M. E. KNIGHT AND WIFE

attention for many years, though he retired from active labors several years prior to his demise. Mr. Klotzbach coveted success, but scorned to attain it save by worthy means, so that the prosperity that crowned his efforts was a merited and consistent result. He was always ready to do his part in the furtherance of measures and enterprises tending to conserve the civic and material welfare of the community, was a staunch Republican in politics and was a zealous member of the German Methodist Episcopal church, as is also his venerable widow, who still remains on the old homestead farm, the same being endeared to her by the hallowed memories and association of many years. Mr. Klotzbach manifested his abiding Christian faith in good works and kindly deeds, and he served for a number of years as a trustee of the church with which he and his wife were actively affiliated. On the 18th of July, 1871, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Klotzbach to Miss Catherine Hahn, who was born in Lorain county, Ohio, on the 19th of February, 1853, and whose parents came to Iowa in the following year, to become sterling pioneer settlers in Giard township, Clayton county, where her father purchased land and reclaimed a good farm. Mrs. Klotzbach is a daughter of John Peter Hahn and Elizabeth (Lattaman) Hahn, both of whom continued their residence in Clayton county until the close of their long and useful lives, and both of whom were devoted members of the German Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Klotzbach became the parents of eleven children, concerning whom brief record is given in conclusion of this memoir: Theodore is a prosperous farmer in Monona township; Levi is a resident of Klemma, Iowa; Frederick and Catherine died in childhood; Rose remains with her widowed mother on the old homestead; Clara is the wife of Elmer Weithorn, of Watson, this state; Huldah is the wife of Otto Erbe, and they reside in the city of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Frank is identified with business interests in the village of Monona; and Roy, Willard and Harry remain on the old homestead, in the work and management of which they are associated, as representative young farmers of their native county, where they are effectively upholding the honors of the name which they bear. It is interesting to record that Mrs. Klotzbach has seven grandchildren, as representatives of the third generation of the family in Iowa. Theodore Klotzbach has three children—Gerald, Angeline and Irene; Levi Klotzbach has three children—Ila, Allen and Lloyd; and Clara, wife of Elmer Weithorn, has one son—Raymond.

**Myron E. Knight** is one of the venerable but still vigorous and active pioneer citizens of Clayton county, which has represented his home from boyhood, and he resides on his finely improved homestead farm, with the distinction of having maintained longer continuous residence on a single farm than any other man in Lodomillo township. Mr. Knight is, in both the paternal and maternal lines, a scion of fine old colonial stock in New England, and he takes a due measure of pride in reverting to the historic old Bay state as the place of his nativity. He was thirteen years of age at the time of the family immigration to Iowa and has continuously maintained his home in Clayton county during the long intervening years,



though it was his to go forth and render most gallant service as a valiant soldier of the Union in the Civil war. Mr. Knight was born at Norwich, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, on the 19th of February, 1842, and is a son of Samuel H. and Betsey (Stevens) Knight, both likewise natives of Massachusetts, where the former was born November 28, 1803, and the latter on the 22d of January, 1812. Samuel H. Knight came with his family to Clayton county in the year 1855 and became one of the pioneer farmers and influential and honored citizens of Lodomillo township as now constituted. Here he reclaimed his farm to cultivation and here he and his devoted wife continued their ideal companionship until the close of their lives, Mrs. Knight having been summoned to eternal rest on the 5th of December, 1873, and her bereaved husband having passed away on the 31st of the same month. They became the parents of ten children, one of whom died in infancy, and of the others four sons and two daughters are now living. Mary Alice, who was born July 25, 1852, passed away in the home of her brother, Myron E., of this sketch, on the 3d of June, 1863, and in the same home, on the 23d of September next occurred the death of an older brother, Samuel Judson, who was born June 22, 1838. Three of the sons were soldiers in the Civil war, and John S. was but seventeen years old when he took part in the battle of Pea Ridge and was severely wounded. As previously stated, Myron E. Knight was a lad of thirteen years at the time of the family immigration to Clayton county, and the home was established on an unimproved tract of land in Section 30, Lodomillo township, where he has resided during all the long intervening years. His early education was gained in his native state and the pioneer schools of Clayton county, and he contributed his full quota to the reclamation and development of the home farm. He is now the owner of a specially well improved and valuable landed estate of 215 acres, all being situated in Lodomillo township except fifteen acres, which are in Cass township. Mr. Knight now gives special attention to the dairy department of his farm enterprise, and finds distinctive satisfaction in giving his personal supervision in a general way to the splendid farm property that has been accumulated and largely reclaimed and improved by him, the family home being a commodious and attractive brick residence that has long been known as a center of cordial hospitality. On the 11th of August, 1862, at the age of twenty years, Mr. Knight tendered his service in defense of the cause of the Union and it was given him to live up to the full tension of the Civil war and to prove a loyal and gallant soldier of the Union. On the date noted above he enlisted as a private in Company B, Twenty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and with this gallant command he continued in active service until the close of the war. He was mustered out with his regiment on the 15th of July, 1865, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and he received his honorable discharge at Clinton, Iowa, on the 24th of the same month. On the 11th of January, 1863, Mr. Knight participated in the battle at Hartsville, Missouri, and in May of the same year he took part in the engagements at Port Gibson and Champion's Hill, Mississippi, as well as the charge

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S. H. KNIGHT FAMILY GROUP, 1855



at Black River Bridge, that state, on the 17th of that month. In this charge, Colonel Samuel Merrill, commander of the regiment, was wounded, and it will be recalled that this honored commander later served two terms as governor of the state of Iowa. Mr. Knight took part also in the siege of Vicksburg and his regiment was specially prominent in the charge on the fortifications of that city on May 22, 1863. In the spring of 1865 he participated in the subjugation of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. He still retains in his possession, as an interesting souvenir, a small memorandum book which he carried in his pocket during his entire period of service in the war between the north and the south. He vitalizes the more grateful memories and associations of his military career by maintaining affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Knight has been a leader in popular sentiment and action in his home community, and he served for a full quarter of a century as township treasurer. For twelve consecutive years he was trustee of Lodomillo township, and he has also served with equal and characteristic efficiency as a member of the school board of his district. His political allegiance has always been given to the Republican party and he has for many years been an active member of the Baptist church, of which his wife likewise was a devout adherent, their gracious companionship having been severed by her death, which occurred October 23, 1908. On the 1st of January, 1871, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Knight to Miss Bessie J. Gilbert, who was born in Chenango county, New York, on the 22d of March, 1842, a daughter of Lyman and Sallie (Holcomb) Gilbert. She was a woman of gentle personality and her death was deeply mourned by those who had come within the compass of her kindly influence. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Knight the eldest is Alice M., who is the wife of Charles H. Smith, of Lodomillo township; John S. is a prosperous exponent of agricultural industry in the same township; William M. remains at the old home and proves his father's valued aid in the management of the farm; Kate M. is the wife of Ernest Schroeder, of Dundee, Delaware county; Charles W. died on the 26th of June, 1882; and Earl M. still remains on the home farm, the fine rural place receiving its mail service on route No. 1 from Strawberry Point.

**Herman L. Knuth.**—About two miles distant from the village of Luana, in Monona township, is located the well improved farm of Mr. Knuth, and the thrift and prosperity there in evidence fully indicate his energy and progressiveness as one of the substantial representatives of agricultural and live-stock industry in the county that has been his place of residence since he was a lad of fourteen years and in which his independence and prosperity have been gained through his own well ordered efforts. Herman L. Knuth was born in Prussia, on the 22d of April, 1863, and is a son of Charles and Augusta (Hayden) Knuth, who immigrated to America in 1872, when the subject of this sketch was nine years old. The family home was established in the city of Chicago, and as this was in the year immediately following that of the great Chicago fire, Charles Knuth found ready demand for his effective services as a

skilled carpenter and builder. He remained in the western metropolis five years and then, in 1877, came to Clayton county, Iowa, and established the family home in Read township. He continued to follow the work of his trade for several years and then purchased a farm in Wagner township. He became one of the prosperous farmers of the county and continued to reside on his old homestead until his death, which occurred in 1901. He was a Democrat in politics and was a loyal and honorable citizen who commanded unqualified popular esteem. He was a zealous communicant of the Lutheran church, as is also his venerable widow, who now maintains her home in the village of St. Olaf, this county. Of their children, Herman L., of this review, is the eldest; William resides at St. Olaf; Emil is now a resident of Austin, Minnesota; and Ida is the wife of John Gottschalk, of Littleport, this county. Herman L. Knuth gained his rudimentary education in his native land and after the immigration of the family to America he continued his studies in the schools of Chicago, as did he later in those of Read township, Clayton county. As a youth he was here employed at farm work for several years, later he rented a farm in Monona township, and in 1892 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his present fine farm, which now comprises four hundred and forty acres and which is one of the model farms of Monona township, with the substantial improvements and general thrift that indicate the progressiveness and good management of the fortunate owner. Mr. Knuth is a stockholder in the Luana Savings Bank, of which he formerly served as a director; he is aligned as a loyal supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and has served as a member of the school board of his district; he also owns twelve acres of valuable timber land in Franklin township, Allamakee county. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Luana, from which village they received service on rural mail route No. 1. On December 3rd, 1885, Mr. Knuth wedded Miss Mary Garms, daughter of Joachim and Katherine (Schultz) Garms, sterling pioneers of Monona township, and of this union were born six children, namely: Alvin, Walter, Louis, Werner, Milda, and Edward. All of the children are living except Edward. Alvin and Walter are progressive young farmers of Monona township and the other three children remain at the parental home. Mr. and Mrs. Knuth have one grandchild, Lorene, the little daughter of their son Walter.

**Karl J. Konzen** has become a wideawake and progressive exponent of the journalistic profession in his native state, and as editor and publisher of the Volga City News he is making his paper an effective exponent of local interests and of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor. He founded this newspaper in the year 1915, and has a well equipped plant, with modern facilities not only for the issuing of his attractive weekly paper but also for the executing of job printing of all kinds demanded in a community of this order. He has gained for his newspaper a representative support and is making it a vehicle for the promotion of the best civic and material interests of the section

in which it is published, his work being based on alert and vigorous mentality that makes him an effective editor and on a technical knowledge of the printing business in its various departments. His field of enterprise is extended by his publishing also of a weekly paper at Rudd, Floyd county, where he maintained his residence prior to coming to Clayton county, and where he served as secretary of the Commercial Club. Mr. Konzen was born in Lawler, Chickasaw county, this state, on the 21st of October, 1895, and is a son of John G. and May (Connors) Konzen, both of whom were likewise born in Iowa, where the respective families settled in the pioneer days. The father gave the major part of his active life to mercantile business, and was one of the highly esteemed citizens of Lawler county at the time of his death, which occurred May 3, 1914. He is survived by his wife and three children. Karl J. Konzen is indebted to the public schools for his early educational discipline and has had the liberal supplemental training ever involved in association with the "art preservative of all arts." His alliance with the printing and newspaper business had its inception when he was a lad of sixteen years, and from that time to the present he has not wavered in his allegiance thereto, the while he has delved deeply into the mysteries of the art and business and has proved himself not lacking in self-reliance and resourcefulness as a representative of journalism. As previously intimated, he established his residence at Volga in the year 1915, and here he has, through his personality and progressiveness, gained leadership in community sentiment and action and also a secure place in popular confidence and good will. He is a vigorous and effective advocate of the principles of the Democratic party and as there is no measure of inconsistency in a young bachelor proving an able newspaper man Mr. Konzen can legitimately claim both of these distinctions.

**John Krambier, Sr.,** is one of those sterling citizens who, after years of close and effective association with the great basic industry of agriculture, find that there has come the well earned prosperity which permits them to lay aside the arduous labors and responsibilities that long fell to their lot and to pass the gracious twilight of their worthy lives in retirement, with the repose, peace and prosperity that properly crown such careers of useful endeavor. Mr. Krambier was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, on the 8th of December, 1844, and has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a lad of fourteen years. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (Schultz) Krambier, who were born and reared in Mecklenburg, where the former learned in his youth the sturdy trade of blacksmith. In 1859 the family immigrated to the United States and became members of the very appreciable German pioneer colony that was established in and about Guttenberg, Clayton county, in which village John Krambier (I) engaged in the work of his trade. Later he removed to St. Olaf, this county, where he established a shop and built up a substantial and prosperous business as a blacksmith, besides which he made judicious investment in land and developed a productive farm, both he and his wife having been honored pioneer citizens of the county at the time of their death



and both having held reverently to the faith of the German Lutheran Church. Of their children, the subject of this review is the eldest; Elizabeth died when young; Louise is the wife of Henry Gilster, of Farmersburg, this county; August and Lena are deceased; Charles is now a resident of Austin, Minnesota; Fred and Annie are deceased; Frederica is the wife of William Jacobi and they reside in the State of California; and Mary is the widow of John Tiedeman, her home being in the city of Seattle, Washington, where her husband's death occurred. John Krambier, immediate subject of this sketch, acquired his early education in the excellent schools of his fatherland and was, as before stated, about fourteen years old at the time of the family immigration to America. He was reared to manhood on the pioneer farm in Clayton county and continued to be associated with his father in the work of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-two years. He then bought a farm of eighty acres, in Wagner township, where he continued his activities as an agriculturist for a period of about ten years. He then sold the property and went to Minnesota, from which State he later went to South Dakota, but after an absence of about twelve years he returned to Clayton county and purchased a farm of one hundred and eighty-three acres in Wagner township. After operating this place successfully for a period of ten years he sold the property and purchased a farm of one hundred and ten acres in Monona township, near the village of the same name. There he upheld his reputation as a progressive and successful agriculturist and stock grower until 1911, when he felt justified in retiring from active labor, with the result that he sold the farm and established his residence in the village of Luana, where he has an attractive home and is enjoying generous peace and prosperity, the while he is surrounded by a host of friends who are tried and true. Mr. Krambier is found arrayed in the ranks of the Democratic party and both he and his wife are communicants of the German Lutheran Church, in the faith of which they were reared. November 14, 1868, recorded the marriage of Mr. Krambier to Miss Augusta Englehardt, who was born in Pomerania, Germany, on the 14th of September, 1848, and who there received her early educational training. She is a daughter of John and Mary (Schmidt) Englehardt, who immigrated from Prussia to America about the year 1862 and who became early settlers in Clayton county, where Mr. Englehardt became a prosperous farmer near Garnavillo, both he and his wife having passed the closing period of their lives in the village of Farmersburg. Their eldest child, Rudolph, is deceased; Bertha resides at Farmersburg and is the widow of Ferdinand Ranke; William is deceased; Mrs. Krambier was the next in order of birth; Carl is deceased; Henry resides in Farmersburg; and Minnie is the wife of Louis Hockendorf, their home being now in California. Mr. and Mrs. Krambier became the parents of fourteen children, and it is most gratifying to note that death has never invaded this admirable family circle: Henry resides at Luana, and William at Rudd, Iowa; Hattie is the wife of Charles Baumgart and their home is in Minnesota; Charles is a resident of South

Dakota; Augusta is the wife of August Duering, of Luana; John, Jr., is a prosperous farmer in Monona township, Robert in South Dakota and Louis in Monona township; Emma is the wife of William Rasmussen, of Britt, Hancock county; Minnie remains at the parental home; Ida is the wife of William Landt, of Luana; Benjamin resides at Luana, George at Britt, Hancock county, and Bertha remains with her parents.

**John Kramer** has precedence as one of the enterprising and representative merchants and prominent and influential citizens of his native place, the thriving and attractive little city of McGregor, where he is engaged in the clothing and men's furnishing business, with a well stocked and handsomely appointed store in which centers a substantial and appreciative supporting patronage. The major part of his life has been passed in Clayton county, but for four years he maintained his residence in McKenzie county, North Dakota, where he still owns the well improved farm which he reclaimed from the virgin prairie. Mr. Kramer was born at McGregor on the 26th of August, 1873, and is a son of Jacob and Katherine (Kahl) Kramer, both natives of Germany and both honored pioneers of Clayton county. Jacob Kramer was reared and educated in his native land and as a young man, in 1853, he immigrated to the United States, confident of his ability here to find better opportunities for the gaining of success and definite prosperity through personal effort. He remained for a time in Albany in the State of New York. In 1856 he came to Iowa and established his residence at McGregor, where he engaged in the work of his trade, that of carpenter, and where he became a successful contractor and builder in the pioneer days. He was influential in public affairs in the community, served for a time as village marshal, besides which his strong hold upon popular confidence and esteem was shown in his being called upon to serve as a member of the municipal council and also as a member of the board of education of McGregor. He became a naturalized citizen after establishing his home in this county, and it is worthy of note that in obtaining his naturalization papers he walked from McGregor to Garnavillo to apply for and perfect the same. In 1856 was solemnized the marriage of Jacob and Katherine (Kahl) Kramer. Both he and his wife were prominently concerned in the founding of the German Presbyterian Church of McGregor, and the first meeting of its incipient congregation was held in their home. Honored for his sterling character and worthy achievement, this sturdy pioneer citizen was summoned to eternal rest on the 30th of January, 1912, and his venerable widow still remains at the old home in McGregor, secure in the affectionate regard of all who know her. Of the children the eldest is Jacob, who still resides at McGregor; Minnie is the wife of William O. Warley, and they maintain their home in the State of North Dakota; William F. resides at McGregor; Charles F., Louis M. and Frederick likewise reside in this city; Kate died in 1914; and John, of this review, is the youngest of the number. John Kramer is indebted to the public schools of McGregor for his early educational discipline, and at the age of fifteen years he assumed a posi-

tion in the freight office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad at McGregor. In compensation for his services he received thirty-five dollars a month, and for some time he continued to give to his mother each month all but five dollars of his earnings. He finally won advancement to the position of ticket agent at this station, and he retained this incumbency until he had attained to the age of twenty-six years. Thereafter he was associated with his sister Minnie in the dry-goods business at McGregor until 1906, when their establishment was virtually destroyed by fire. He then went to McKenzie county, North Dakota, where he entered claim to a tract of government land, and instituted the reclamation and improvement of the same. In due time he perfected his title to the property, which he still owns and which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of fertile and productive land. On this farm Mr. Kramer continued to reside until 1910, since which year he has been conducting his present prosperous enterprises at McGregor, his attractive store showing at all times a select and comprehensive stock of men's clothing and furnishing goods. He is aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Republican party and is affiliated with the local organizations of the Woodmen of the World and the M. B. A.'s. Mr. Kramer is alderman at large of the city of McGregor and secretary of the McGregor Building & Loan Association, while both he and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian Church. On the 17th of October, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kramer to Miss Stella Church, daughter of Lafayette F. and Corinda (Wynne) Church, her father having for many years conducted a prosperous livery business at McGregor. Mr. and Mrs. Kramer are popular factors in the social life of their native community, where their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances and where their attractive home is a center of generous hospitality and good cheer. Their only child, Louis L., was born at McGregor, on the 5th of January, 1902, and is an ambitious young student in the public schools of his native place at the time of this writing, in 1916. He is a vigorous, generous and popular lad and a worthy scion of the third generation of the Kramer family in Clayton county.

**Theodore J. Krasinsky** came from Germany to America when a youth of eighteen years and established his residence in Iowa, where it has been his to achieve distinctive success and prosperity through his own energy and well directed efforts and where he may consistently be termed one of the pioneer citizens of Clayton county, for here he has maintained his home during the greater part of the period since he came from his native land, nearly half a century ago. He owns and conducts a well stocked and modern general merchandise establishment in the village of Garnavillo, and in connection therewith he has a specially well appointed jewelry department, with excellent facilities for the repairing of watches, clocks and general lines of jewelry. Mr. Krasinsky is essentially one of the influential business men and representative citizens of Garnavillo, where he has served in various public offices, including that of postmaster of the village. He has impressed



upon the community that has long been his home the strength and steadfastness of his sterling character and he commands inviolable place in popular confidence and esteem, so that in all respects he is specially worthy of recognition in this history of Clayton county and its people. Mr. Krasinsky was born in Germany, on the 24th of July, 1850, and is a son of John and Dorothy (Brunern) Krasinsky, both of whom there passed their entire lives; they became the parents of three children, of whom two are living. He whose name introduces this article was reared and educated in his Fatherland, and in 1868 he followed the course of his youthful ambition by severing the home ties and setting forth to seek his fortunes in the United States. Soon after his arrival in America he came to Iowa and found employment at farm work in Clayton county, this occupation having been followed by him for the first three years, at the expiration of which he assumed a position as clerk in a mercantile establishment at Garnavillo. Several years later he engaged independently in the general merchandise business at McGregor, but after conducting the enterprise about two years he disposed of his stock of goods and removed to the city of Dubuque, where he was employed as clerk in a mercantile establishment for a period of six years, this being the only interval of his not maintaining his home in Clayton county during the entire time that he has been in America. Upon returning to this county from Dubuque he again established his residence at Garnavillo, and soon afterward, in 1884, he was appointed postmaster, under the Cleveland administration. He continued the efficient incumbent of this office for a period of one term, and in the meanwhile he again engaged in the general merchandise business, with which he has continued to be successfully identified during the long intervening years. He has built up a large and substantial business and the high reputation he has won for himself and his establishment constitutes a most valuable business asset, besides being a matter of just pride and satisfaction to him. Mr. Krasinsky has been prominent and influential in the Clayton county councils of the Democratic party and in addition to his service as postmaster he held for thirteen years the office of township clerk and was for several years a member of the board of education of Garnavillo. In addition to his substantial and modern store building and an attractive residence property Mr. Krasinsky is the owner of two village lots that have not been improved with buildings. He is affiliated with the blue-lodge, chapter and council bodies of the York Rite of the Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife are communicants and liberal supporters of the Lutheran church in their home village. In the year 1872 Mr. Krasinsky wedded Miss Elizabeth Walleser, who was born in Pennsylvania but who has passed the greater part of her life in Clayton county, where her parents established their home when she was a child. Mrs. Krasinsky is a daughter of Matthew and Rosina (Ruester) Walleser, both natives of the Kingdom of Baden, Germany, whence they came to America when young folks, their first place of residence having been in Pennsylvania, whence they came to Clayton county,

Iowa, in the early pioneer era of its history, their home having been established on an embryonic farm, which they developed into one of the valuable landed estates of the county and upon which they passed the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Krasinsky have four children: Amelia is the wife of Frank Barnhouse and they reside in the city of Chicago; Hugo is now in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, in which state also reside the two younger sons, Waldemar and Baldwin, the latter maintaining his home at St. Paul.

**Edward W. Kregel** is a scion of the third generation of one of the well known and highly honored pioneer families of Clayton county and through his character and achievement has marked as his own a place of distinctive prominence and influence in connection with civic, industrial and social activities in his native county, where he has substantial and important interests by way of joint ownership with his brother Herman D., in the fine landed estates of Garnavillo township—the Black Diamond Stock Farm, which comprises one hundred and ninety-seven and one-half acres and which is eligibly situated in Sections 13 and 14. On this splendid homestead he maintains his residence and there he is giving special attention to the breeding and raising of pure-blood Aberdeen Angus cattle, in connection with which department of his farm enterprise he has gained a reputation that far transcends local limitations. Mr. Kregel was born in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 1st of May, 1863, and is one of the five surviving children of John D. and Helena A. (Kaiser) Kregel. The parents were born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, and both were children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to America, Mr. Kregel having been a lad of six years and his wife having come with her parents in the year 1845. Both families settled in Ohio, whence they later came to Iowa, in the early pioneer days, and John D. Kregel became one of the early settlers in Garnavillo township, Clayton county, where he attained to secure status and high honor as a prosperous farmer and influential citizen and where he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. The boyhood and youth of Edward W. Kregel were marked by his assisting in the work of the home farm and making good use of the advantages offered by the public schools of the locality, his studies having eventually included the curriculum of the Garnavillo high school. After his marriage, which occurred in the year 1887, he purchased the fine farm which he now owns and which has been brought up to its present model status through his individual efforts and progressive policies. He has been a leader in advancing the agricultural and live-stock industries in this section of the state and his influence in these directions has added materially to his unqualified personal popularity. He was secretary of the Clayton County Agricultural Society in 1892, and in the following year he became secretary of the Farmers' Creamery Company of Garnavillo, at the time of its organization, this office having been held by him for a period of nine years, at the expiration of which he declined further retention of the position, though he has continued to serve as a member of the board of di-

rectors of the company. He was likewise one of the organizers of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company at Garnavillo, and has been continuously an officer of the same save for an interim of three years. For many years he has been a director of the West Side School of Garnavillo; during his three years of service as township trustee he was the staunch advocate of liberal and progressive policies and instrumental in the effecting of the building of several fine bridges in the township; and the year 1916 finds him serving his first term, with characteristic loyalty and efficiency, in the important office of county commissioner. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he and his family are communicants of the Lutheran church. In the year 1887 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kregel to Miss Sophia M. Bruns, who was born and reared in Garnavillo township, and whose parents, Frederick H., deceased, and Anna M. (Moellering) Bruns, resided in Monona; the father was a representative farmer of Garnavillo township, he having been six years of age at the time of his parents' immigration from Germany to America, and his wife having been born in Clayton county, a member of a well known pioneer family. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Kregel the eldest is Arthur J., who is married and who has the active charge of the old homestead farm of his father; Laura M. is the wife of Elmer H. Brandt, who is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; Irene E. and Edna P. M. remain at the parental home, the former being a graduate of the Garnavillo high school, where Edna is attending, being now (1916) in the tenth grade.

**Herman D. Kregel** is one of the five surviving children of John D. and Helena A. (Kaiser) Kregel and is a popular representative of one of the well known and honored pioneer families of Clayton county, which has been his home from the time of his birth and in which he has won secure status as one of the prominent and successful exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in his native township. He was born in Garnavillo township on the 15th of August, 1865, and he may well take pride in being a representative of that fine German element of citizenship that has played a splendid part in connection with the civic and industrial development and progress of Clayton county. His parents were born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, and were children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to the United States, the home of each family having first been established in the state of Ohio. John D. Kregel became one of the early settlers of Garnavillo township, where he won distinct prosperity and prestige through his association with agricultural industry and where he became a substantial farmer and honored and influential citizen. Both he and his wife remained on their old homestead farm until their death, and both were earnest and lifelong members of the Lutheran church. Herman D. Kregel was reared to the sturdy discipline of the old homestead farm, gained his early education in the public schools of the county and continued to assist his father in the work of the farm until he had attained to his legal majority. He then became interested in the Black Diamond Stock Farm, which



consists of one hundred and ninety-seven and one-half acres of the old homestead, which is situated in Sections 13 and 14, Garnavillo township. This place is owned jointly by himself and his brother Edward W. and is notable for the fine improvements, including good buildings, and in connection with his operations in the domain of diversified agriculture Mr. Kregel gives special and successful attention to the breeding and raising of the Black Polled Angus cattle. He is a member of the directorate of the Garnavillo Savings Bank, of which he was one of the organizers, and is known as one of the substantial and upright citizens of his native county. He has further shown his progressiveness by identifying himself with the Garnavillo Commission Company and the Garnavillo Creamery Company, in each of which important corporations he is a director. He has served with characteristic loyalty and efficiency in the office of township trustee, is a Republican in politics and he and his wife are zealous communicants of the German Lutheran church at Garnavillo. April 24, 1890, recorded the marriage of Mr. Kregel to Miss Minnie Meyer, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and whose parents, Louis and Eliza (Moellering) Meyer, natives of Germany, are now venerable and honored pioneer citizens of Farmersburg township. Mr. and Mrs. Kregel have four children—Adelia, Arnold W., Elmer J. and Ivanelle. The three elder children have been given the advantages of the public schools, including the high school at Garnavillo, in which Adelia and Elmer J. were graduated.

**Frank J. Kriebs, M. D.**—The thorough preparation, the distinctive technical ability, the sterling character and the fine sense of stewardship that have marked the professional career of Dr. Kriebs have given him place of prominence as one of the able and representative physicians and surgeons of his native county and state, and he has been engaged in the successful general practice of his profession at Elkport for the long period of thirty years. As a physician of high ideals he has been guide, counselor and friend to many of the families of this part of Clayton county, and as a citizen of broad and liberal views he has been an honored and influential figure in the community life. Dr. Kriebs was born at Guttenberg, this county, on the 27th of May, 1859, a date that indicates conclusively that he is a scion of one of the pioneer families of the county. Here he gained his youthful education in the public schools, and after making a substantial advancement along academic lines of study he followed the course of his worthy and resolute ambition by initiating his preparation for the exacting profession in which it has been given him to achieve unequivocal success and high honors. In 1881 he was graduated in the celebrated Rush Medical College, in the city of Chicago, and after thus receiving his well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine, he engaged in the practice of his profession in Carroll county, Iowa, where he remained until 1886, when he returned to his native county and established his residence and professional headquarters at Elkport. Earnest and effective service in his humane vocation has enabled him to build up a specially large and important general practice and

he has long held prestige as one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Clayton county, with a due regard in temporal prosperity and with the greater recompense involved in the confidence and high regard of the community in which he has lived and labored to goodly ends. He is an influential and valued member of the Clayton County Medical Society, and has long held membership also in the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He served six years as county coroner, is now the zealous incumbent of the office of health officer of the county, and he is local surgeon for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. The doctor has found time and opportunity to lend his effective co-operation in the promotion of civic and business enterprises that have advanced the best interests of the community, and it may be specially noted that he was one of the organizers of the Elkport Savings Bank, of which he has been vice-president from the time of its incorporation, and that he is a stockholder in two other banking institutions in the county. His residence property at Elkport is one of the most modern and attractive homes of the village and in Volga township he is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and eighty acres. He is well fortified in his opinions concerning economic and governmental policies and gives his allegiance to the Democratic party. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Catholic church and in a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. On the 12th of September, 1894, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Kriebs to Miss Nettie E. Goodsell, who was born in the state of Massachusetts and who is a daughter of Jerome and Margaret (Dorgan) Goodsell, the former of whom was born in Connecticut and the latter of whom was born in Ireland. Mrs. Kriebs was a child at the time of her parents' removal to Clayton county, and here her father died when 72 years of age, her mother, now venerable in years, being still a resident of this county. Dr. and Mrs. Kriebs have one daughter, Helen May, who was born February 2, 1898, and who is now a member of the class of 1916 in Mount St. Joseph's College, in the city of Dubuque.

**George Kriebs.**—It is one of the most consistent and gratifying functions of this publication to accord specific recognition to those honored and influential citizens who are today prominent in the civic and business activities of Clayton county, who claim the county as the place of their nativity and who are representatives of sterling pioneer families of this favored section of the great state of Iowa. Such an one is Mr. Kriebs, who has long been one of the leading business men of Elkport, where he owns and conducts one of the finest retail drug stores in the county and where he has served as a director and as cashier of the Elkport Savings Bank from the time of its organization to the present. He is one of the substantial capitalists of his native county, is a liberal and loyal citizen who commands unequivocal popular esteem, and he is definitely entitled to consideration in this history. George Kriebs was born at Guttenberg, this county, on the 25th of October, 1857, one of a family of nine children, of whom seven are now living. He is a

son of John P. and Lena (Sisemann) Kriebs, who were born and reared in Germany and who immigrated to America in the '40s. The parents became pioneer settlers in the fine German colony of Guttenberg, Clayton county, Iowa, and there the father long held secure status as one of the most honored and influential citizens of the thriving community. He was a leading merchant of that village, held the office of postmaster for a long period and gave several years to characteristically efficient administration in the office of mayor of the village. He was a stalwart in the local camp of the Democratic party and both he and his wife were communicants of the Catholic church. They were venerable and revered pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of their death. George Kriebs attended the public schools of his native village until he had attained to the age of fifteen years, when he became a clerk in a drug store at Elkader, where he remained thus engaged for the ensuing six years, and where he gained a thorough and practical knowledge of all details of the business that is of semi-professional order. Upon leaving the county seat Mr. Kriebs engaged in the drug business at Elkport, where he has continued his active association with this line of enterprise during the long intervening years and where he now has one of the largest and best equipped drug stores in the county. In 1906 he became one of the organizers and incorporators of the Elkport Savings Bank, of which he has since served as cashier and in the upbuilding of the substantial business of which he has been the dominating executive. This is one of the representative financial institutions of Clayton county, bases its operations upon a capital stock of ten thousand dollars and now has a surplus fund of five thousand dollars. The vice-president of the bank is Dr. Frank J. Kriebs, a younger brother of the cashier, and of the doctor individual mention is made on other pages of this publication, in the general historical department of which is given also due consideration to the banking and other financial institutions of the county. Mr. Kriebs is not only one of the principal stockholders of the bank of which he is cashier but also has stock in several other banks in his native county. His material prosperity is further indicated by his ownership of a fine landed estate of three hundred and thirty acres, in Volga township, and in civic affairs he is definitely prominent and influential, with splendid equipment for leadership in popular sentiment and action. He is one of the most prominent men in the local councils of the Democratic party, as indicated by the fact that he is serving as chairman of the Democratic central committee of Clayton county. He served four years as postmaster of Elkport, under the administration of President Cleveland, and he has been called upon to serve also in virtually every village and township office in his home community. He has passed all of the official chairs in the Elkport Lodge, No. 345, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is affiliated also with the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is secretary of the company which owns and controls the Elkport opera house, of which popular amusement resort he is manager. In November, 1877, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kriebs to



Miss Louise E. Cook, who was born at Elkader, this county, and who is a daughter of the late Asahel D. Cook, who was one of the honored and influential citizens of the county, where he and his wife continued to reside until their death. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Kriebs, the eldest is Frank D., who is now engaged in the drug business at Beresford, South Dakota; Vera L., a popular young business woman, is serving as assistant cashier of the Elkport Savings Bank; Gertrude H. is the wife of William J. McTaggart, of Rochester, Minnesota; Asa G. is a representative merchant of Elkport, where he is serving as postmaster; and Harold J. C. remains at the parental home.

**William C. Kruse.**—As one of the representative business men of the younger generation in his native county, Mr. Kruse owns and conducts a well equipped and essentially modern furniture and undertaking establishment in the village of Monona, and his prominence in community affairs as well as his unqualified personal popularity is indicated by the fact that he is now serving as municipal treasurer of the village. Mr. Kruse was born on a farm in Giard township, this county, and the date of his nativity was March 5, 1880. He is a son of Henry and Amelia (Busch) Kruse, both of whom are now deceased, and both of whom were honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of their death, both having been born in Germany. Henry Kruse was a lad of thirteen years when he came to America and within a short time after his arrival in the land of his adoption he established his residence in Clayton county, where he grew to manhood under the conditions and influences of the farm and where he eventually purchased a farm of his own, in Giard township. He later sold this property and bought another farm, in Monona township, and he long held distinct precedence as one of the progressive and successful agriculturists and stock-growers of this county. After his retirement from active labors he established his home in the village of Monona, where his death occurred about two years later, his devoted wife surviving him by a number of years. Both were earnest communicants of the Lutheran Church and in politics he gave a staunch support to the cause of the Democratic party. Of the children the firstborn, Mary, is deceased; August and Henry W. both reside in Monona; William C., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Adelia is the wife of Roy Koth, of Monona, and Amanda is the wife of Arnold Kaiser, of the same place. William C. Kruse found his childhood and youth compassed by the invigorating discipline of the home farm, and in the meanwhile he made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county. He continued his active association with agricultural pursuits until he had attained to the age of twenty-five years and then went to Monona, where for one year he was employed in the furniture and undertaking establishment of George Kaiser. In 1906 he engaged in the same line of enterprise at Sumner, where he continued in business until 1911, when he transferred his residence to Monona, where he has since controlled a substantial and representative business, with a store in which he displays at all times a large and varied assort-

ment of furniture, besides having a thoroughly well appointed department devoted to undertaking. He is not only well known as a representative funeral director of his native county but is also a licensed embalmer. Mr. Kruse is essentially liberal and public-spirited as a citizen and takes loyal interest in all things touching the welfare of his home village and native county, where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. He is unwavering in his allegiance to the Democratic party and, though he is in no sense a seeker of public office, his civic loyalty is shown by the careful and effective service which he is rendering in the office of village treasurer. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran Church and give earnest support to its various departments of work. On the 24th of April, 1906, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kruse to Miss Amanda Kregel, daughter of William and Paulina (Dickman) Kregel, of Monona, where Mrs. Kruse was born on the 8th of December, 1881, her education having been acquired in the public schools of this village and in an institution of higher education at Decorah. Mr. and Mrs. Kruse have two children—Gerald, who was born September 26, 1909, and Pauline, who was born December 5, 1915.

Joseph J. Kuehl is another sterling representative of the fine element of German citizenship that has contributed in large and altogether commendable measure to the civic and industrial development and progress of Clayton county, within whose borders he has resided since he was a child of two years. Though he is a native of Germany and pays due deference to its noble traditions and customs, as a matter of birthright, he is a true American in thought, action and appreciation, with his only knowledge of German institutions and customs that received from his parents and from later reading of admirable literature pertaining to the Fatherland which he left in the days of his infancy. He is now known as one of the energetic, progressive and substantial farmers and stock-growers of Clayton county, is the owner of a well improved landed estate, and is one of the influential citizens of Boardman township, his homestead being situated four miles west of Elkader, the county seat, from which place he receives service on rural mail route No. 2. Joseph J. Kuehl was born in Germany on the 24th of January, 1864, and thus was about two years of age when, in 1866, he accompanied his parents, Joseph and Dorothy (Fick) Kuehl, on their immigration to the United States, the family home having been established in Clayton county, Iowa, in the same year, and the death of the devoted wife and mother having occurred in March, 1871. Joseph Kuehl obtained a tract of land and became one of the pioneer farmers of this county, where he achieved independence and prosperity through industry and earnest effort and where he developed one of the excellent farms of Boardman township. He is still a substantial landholder of the county, but is now living virtually retired at Elkader, in the serene enjoyment of the rewards of former years of toil and endeavor, and secure in the high regard of all who know him. Of the four children the subject of this review is the firstborn; Mary died in childhood; Sophia is

the wife of Henry Schrader, of Elkport, this county; Henry died when young. Mrs. Dorothy (Fick) Kuehl was the second wife of Joseph Kuehl, and after her death he contracted a third marriage. His third wife is now deceased, and of their twelve children seven are deceased: Herman resides at Elkport, this county; Charles at Littleport, John at Elkport, and Henry at Elkport. All of the other children died young except Lena, who was a young woman at the time of her demise. Joseph J. Kuehl was reared under the invigorating influence of the home farm, early began to contribute his quota to its work, and in the meanwhile profited duly by the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality. He continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the old homestead farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-three years, when he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, near Communia, this county, and initiated his independent career as a farmer. Four years later, however, he sold this property, and he then purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Section 29, Boardman township, where he has since maintained his home and successfully carried forward his progressive operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower. To his original purchase he later added a tract of eighty acres in Section 19 and still later he purchased eighty-six acres in Section 3, so that his landed estate in Boardman township now comprises three hundred and twenty acres. He has made many fine improvements on this valuable property and has won precedence as one of the essentially representative farmers and stock-raisers of this favored section of the Hawkeye State, with the status of a broad-gauged and public-spirited citizen who is always ready to do his part in the furtherance of measures and enterprises that tend to advance the general welfare of the community. In politics he is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the now dominant Democratic party, and he has served as township trustee, as well as in minor township offices and as a member of the school board of his district, an office of which he is the incumbent at the time of this writing, in 1916. He is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran Church, in the faith of which they were reared. February 2, 1887, recorded the marriage of Mr. Kuehl to Miss Mary Ehrhardt, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county, and who is a representative of the sterling pioneer family concerning which adequate mention is made on other pages of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Kuehl became the parents of ten children: George W. is a progressive farmer of the younger generation in Boardman township; Carrie is the wife of Charles Raemer, of Volga township; Mary is the wife of Herman Raemer, of the same township; Frederick is a substantial agriculturist in Read township; Arthur is associated in the work and management of his father's farm; Catherine is the wife of Henry Baars, of Boardman township; and Hilda, Louisa, Frances and Mildred remain at the parental home.



**Herman C. Kuenzel** has the distinction of being one of the representative business men of his native village of Garnavillo, where for more than thirty years he has been successfully established in the drug trade and where he has a well appointed drug store that commands a substantial and appreciative patronage. He is a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county, with whose history the name which he bears has been closely and worthily identified for nearly three score years and ten, and in this connection it is most gratifying to render incidental tribute to his honored parents, who here lived and labored to goodly ends and whose memory is here held in enduring esteem. Mr. Kuenzel was born at Garnavillo on the 14th of October, 1855, and is a son of John Henry and Anna (Mohrman) Kuenzel, the former of whom was born in the Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, and the latter in the Province of Hanover. John Henry Kuenzel was but seven years of age when he accompanied his parents on their immigration to America, and the family home was established at New Bremen, Auglaiz county, Ohio, where he was reared to adult age and where he learned the trade of harnessmaker. In 1850 he came to Clayton county, Iowa, and numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Garnavillo, which was then a mere frontier hamlet. About one year later he became associated with his brother-in-law, the late Benjamin F. Schroeder, in the erection of a flouring mill at this point, and in the early days they were compelled to haul their flour product by team and wagon to Clayton, from which point it was shipped down the Mississippi river to St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Kuenzel was one of the pioneers of this important field of enterprise in Clayton county, and through the same he aided greatly in the industrial and civic development of the county, his identification with the milling business having continued up to the time of his decease. John Henry Kuenzel was known and honored as one of the vigorous, upright and enterprising men of the county, was influential in public affairs of a local order and commanded the high regard of all who knew him. He served in minor township offices and also as school director, and he played well his part in connection with the development and upbuilding of the community in which he long maintained his home. Of the family of ten children the eldest is Margaret, who is the wife of Frederick Harberg, of Garnavillo; Julia is the wife of Frederick Schoelerman, of Lake Park, Minnesota; Herman C., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Anna is the wife of Joseph Walleser, of Garnavillo; Marie is a resident of Cleveland, Ohio; Henry maintains his home in the city of Dubuque, Iowa; Edward C. and Frederick B. reside in Cleveland, Ohio; and Fredonia and Laura are deceased. Herman C. Kuenzel is indebted to the public schools of Garnavillo for his early educational discipline, and at the age of sixteen years he here entered upon an apprenticeship to the cabinetmaker's trade, in which he became a skilled workman and to which he devoted his attention for a period of eight years. He then, in 1880, established himself in the drug business in his native village, where he has since continued successfully in this line of enterprise, with present status

as one of the oldest merchants of the place in point of consecutive operations. Mr. Kuenzel has shown the deepest loyalty to his home village and county and has been an influential figure in community affairs, with impregnable vantage-ground in popular confidence and good will. He was for six years a member of the village council, and the high estimate placed upon him in this connection was shown when he was elected to the office of mayor, of which he continued the incumbent two years and in which he gave a most progressive and satisfactory administration. He was for a long period given preferment as a member of the board of education, of which he served twelve years as president, and for nine years he held the office of postmaster of Garnavillo. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, he is affiliated with the local Turnverein, and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. On the 9th of July, 1884, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kuenzel to Miss Nellie Walleser, who likewise was born and reared at Garnavillo, a representative of another of the honored pioneer families of the county. She is a daughter of Matthew and Rosina (Riester) Walleser, both natives of Germany and both now deceased. Of their children she was the seventh in order of birth, and concerning the others the following brief record is consistently entered: Henry is deceased; Frances (Francis?) is a resident of Nashua, Chickasaw county; Emil maintains his home at Garnavillo; Elizabeth is the wife of Theodore J. Krasinsky, of this place; Rosina is the wife of William Schumacher, of Garnavillo, where also resides Joseph, the next in order of birth; and Anna is the wife of Henry Kuenzel, their home being in the city of Dubuque. Mr. and Mrs. Keunzel of this review have one son, Webber B., who is now serving as postmaster of Garnavillo and who is one of the representative young men of Clayton county.

**George Kuhlman.**—One of the most gratifying conditions that have been noted in connection with the preparation of this history is that there are to be found in Clayton county very many native sons of the county who have had the good judgment here to continue their close allegiance to the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing and to prove definitely alert, vigorous and successful exponents of these important lines of enterprise. Such an one is Mr. Kuhlman, who owns, resides upon and effectively directs the operations of the fine homestead farm which has been his place of residence from the time of his birth. He was born August 31, 1875, in Garnavillo township, and a portion of his homestead farm lies within the corporate boundaries of the thriving village of Garnavillo. He is a son of Frederick W. and Mary (Dahl) Kuhlman, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, whence they immigrated to America in 1848. They located in the state of Ohio, where they remained until 1852, when they came to Iowa and established themselves as pioneer settlers in Garnavillo township, Clayton county. The journey from Ohio to their destination was made with an ox team and a covered wagon, and the original home of the family was a log cabin of the true pioneer type. Frederick W. Kuhlman gained substantial success through his farm operations

and both he and his wife were honored pioneer citizens of this county at the time of their death, when well advanced in years. Both were earnest communicants of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which they reared their five children, all of whom are living. George Kuhlman continued his studies in the public schools of his native county until he had made good use of the advantages afforded in the high school at Garnavillo, and he remained with his parents until their death, proving his father's valued coadjutor in the work and management of the old homestead farm, which he eventually inherited and which is one of the valuable landed estates of the county, with the best of improvements of a permanent order and with an area of two hundred and seventy acres, in Sections 8 and 17, Garnavillo township. The farm is given over to diversified agriculture and the raising of approved grades of live stock, and in connection with these lines of industry the subject of this sketch had well upheld the high prestige of the family name. He is a stalwart in the local ranks of the Republican party and has served as township trustee and as a member of the school board. He is one of the stockholders of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Company of Garnavillo, and was its president for a period of five years, besides which he is a director of the Farmers' State Bank of Garnavillo, of which he was one of the organizers. Mr. Kuhlman is still to be acclaimed as one of the eligible bachelors of his native county, even as he here has a circle of friends that is limited only by that of his acquaintances.

**Henry H. Kuhlman** is a native son of Clayton county and a scion of an honored pioneer family that was here founded more than sixty years ago. Here he has found ample scope and opportunity for large and worthy achievement along normal lines of industrial and business enterprise, and he is now serving as the efficient and popular cashier of the Farmers' State Bank of Garnavillo; of which he was one of the organizers and in which he is a substantial stockholder. Further evidence of the confidence and esteem reposed in him in the community is that afforded by his being called upon to serve as mayor of the thriving village of Garnavillo, in which important municipal office the year 1916 finds him giving a most progressive and effective administration. Mr. Kuhlman was born in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 25th of May, 1865, and is one of a family of five children, all of whom are living. He is a son of Frederick W. and Mary (Dahl) Kuhlman, both of whom were born in Germany, where they were reared and educated and whence they came to the United States in 1848. They maintained their residence in the state of Ohio until 1852, when they came to Iowa in 1852 and became pioneer settlers in Garnavillo township, Clayton county. The entire journey from Ohio to Clayton county was made in a covered wagon drawn by oxen, and the original home was a primitive log cabin, which the family occupied several years. The father gained substantial success through his operations as a farmer and both he and his wife continued to reside on their old homestead until their death, when well advanced in years. Henry H. Kuhlman was reared under the conditions and



influences of the pioneer farm and continued his studies in the public schools until he had completed the curriculum of the high school. He remained at the parental home until he had attained to the age of thirty-one years, when he married Miss Hannah Aulwes, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of John and Minnie (Straus) Aulwes, still venerable and honored pioneer citizens of the county, their home being now in the village of Guttenberg. The father was born in Germany and the mother in Clayton county, where her parents were very early settlers. After his marriage Mr. Kuhlman lived on a rented farm until he purchased a place of thirty acres adjacent to the village of Garnavillo, where he continued his successful activities as an agriculturist for a period of ten years. He served as secretary of the Farmers' Creamery Company for six years, and for three years was secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. He then sold his farm and assumed the position of assistant cashier of the Garnavillo Savings Bank, which he served in this capacity for a period of seven years. He then became one of the organizers and incorporators of the Farmers' State Bank of Garnavillo, and he has been its able and valued cashier from the inception of its business to the present time. Mr. Kuhlman is distinctly one of the vigorous and progressive citizens and representative business men of his native county, is a Republican in politics and is serving in 1916 as mayor of Garnavillo, as previously stated, he having been incumbent of this office for several consecutive years. He has served also as township trustee, as justice of the peace and as secretary of the board of education, of which last mentioned post he was the incumbent for several years. He is affiliated with Garnavillo Lodge, No. 90, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, in which he has passed various official chairs, and both he and his wife are zealous communicants and supporters of St. Paul's Lutheran church in their home village, their circle of friends being coincident with that of their acquaintances. They have no children.

**Arthur R. Kunzmann** conducts a prosperous enterprise as the owner of a well equipped automobile garage in the village of Volga, where he makes a specialty of handling the Buick, Oakland and Ford automobiles, for which he is local representative, and in addition to controlling this prosperous business he is the owner of a well improved and valuable farm, in Sperry township. He is an alert and popular young business man and is well entitled to consideration in this history. Mr. Kunzmann was born in Fayette county, this state, on the 29th of April, 1881, and is a son of George and Louise (Frey) Kunzmann, both of whom were born in Baden, Germany. The father came to America about the year 1851; after residing for a brief period in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, he made his way to Wisconsin, where he purchased a tract of land and became a pioneer farmer. On the land which he thus owned is situated at the present time one of the prosperous villages of the Badger state. After remaining in Wisconsin for a number of years George Kunzmann came to Iowa and purchased a farm in Fayette county, where he won large and worthy success through

his own ability and well ordered enterprise and where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred on the 10th of February, 1903, his widow being still a resident of that county and both having become earnest communicants of the German Lutheran church when they were young folks. The eldest of their children is Louise, who is the widow of Elmer Chandler and who maintains her home at Leeland, Saginaw county, Michigan; George resides in the city of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as does also Robert; Otto remains on the old homestead farm in Fayette county; Amos is a resident of Cedar Rapids; and Arthur R., of this review, is the youngest child. Passing the years of his childhood and early youth on the home farm, Arthur R. Kunzmann made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county, and he finally indulged in distinctive talent and predilection for mechanical pursuits by establishing and conducting a blacksmith shop on the farm. To perfect himself at his trade he finally went to the village of Wadena, Fayette county, where he gained the experience that made him a skilled artisan. In 1904 he came to Volga, Clayton county, and established a blacksmith shop. For the ensuing nine years he here conducted a prosperous general blacksmith business, and he then traded his shop and business for a farm of one hundred and fifty acres, in Sperry township. However, he continued to work in his old shop for eighteen months, in the employ of the new owner, and in 1915 he erected his present substantial garage building, which is fifty by one hundred and twenty feet in dimensions and which affords the best of accommodations and facilities for the substantial automobile and repair business which he has developed. He also gives a general supervision to his farm, which he rents. Mr. Kunzmann is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party, he and his wife are communicants of the German Lutheran church, and he is affiliated with the local organizations of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. On the 10th of May, 1903, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kunzmann to Miss Mary Duff, and they have two fine little sons, William and Albert.

**George F. Kurdelmeier** was born on the fine farmstead which he now owns and operates, in Section 4, Read township, and the date of his nativity was February 2, 1868. His honored father was one of the sterling pioneers who contributed a generous quota to the civic and industrial development and upbuilding of Clayton county, and the precedence which he eventually gained as one of the extensive and representative farmers of the county has been fully upheld and also advanced by his son George F., of this review, who is showing marked circumspection and progressiveness in the management of his large and valuable landed estate. He whose name initiates this article is one of the six surviving children of William and Maria (Pieper) Kurdelmeier, both of whom were children at the time of the immigration of the respective families from Germany to the United States. William Kurdelmeier and his wife were reared and educated in the state of Ohio, where their marriage was solemnized, and upon coming to Clayton county,

Iowa, they established their home on the farm now owned by their son George F. Here the father continued his productive activities as one of the honored and successful farmers of the county until his death, which occurred in 1898. His widow, now venerable in years, still resides in the county that has long been her home and in which she has the high regard of all who know her; she is a devoted communicant of the Lutheran church, as was also her husband. George F. Kurdelmeier has always maintained his home on the fine farm which he now owns and has had the good judgment never to sever his allegiance to the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing, through the medium of which he is proving himself one of the substantial citizens of his native county. His marriage was solemnized in the year 1900, and shortly afterward he purchased the old homestead farm of two hundred acres, to which he later added by the purchase of an adjoining tract of forty acres, in the same township, so that his landed estate now comprises two hundred and forty acres of as fine land as is to be found in this section of the state. For his independent career he was fortified not only by long and practical experience but also by the discipline which he received in his boyhood and youth while attending the public schools of his home township. His political support is given to the Republican party; he is always ready to give co-operation in the furtherance of those objects that tend to advance the general welfare of the community and he has served as school director of his district for the past twenty years. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. The attractive home is known for its cordial hospitality and receives mail service on rural route No. 1 from the village of St. Olaf. In 1900 Mr. Kurdelmeier wedded Miss Caroline Ihde, who likewise was born and reared in Read township and who is a daughter of John and Anna (Thoma) Ihde, both natives of Iowa and now honored residents of Garna-villo township, this county, only one of their nine children being deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kurdelmeier have five children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here noted: Charlotte, April 4, 1901; William J., June 21, 1902; Arno G., October 13, 1903; Cora M. S., June 16, 1905; and Roslyn A. M., November 2, 1912.

**Charles H. Lange** is one of the prominent and successful exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in his native township and county, and his finely improved landed estate of two hundred acres includes the old homestead place on which he was born, in Section 15, Cox Creek township. Charles Henry Lange was here born on the 16th of April, 1872, and he is a son of Henry and Louisa (Zahrndt) Lange, both natives of Germany. Henry Lange was a child of three years at the time of his parents' immigration to America and the family home was first established in Indiana, whence removal was later made to Ohio, where he was reared to manhood and gained a good common-school education. At the age of twenty years Henry Lange became a pioneer settler in Clayton county, Iowa, and through his energy and well ordered endeavors he reclaimed and improved one of the valuable farm properties of Cox Creek township. He was one of the well known and highly



honored pioneer citizens of the county at the time of his death, which occurred on the 7th of May, 1903, and his venerable widow still resides in this county, where she is held in affectionate regard by all who know her. Emma, the eldest of the children, is the wife of John Marshall and they reside at Gold Bar, Washington; William now resides in the city of Dubuque; Otto and Ida are deceased; Laura is the wife of William Reichart, of Littleport; Charles H., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Hugo resides at DeKalb, Illinois, and Raymond at Elkader, the judicial center of Clayton county; Mamie is the wife of Gustav Mentzel, of Cox Creek township. Charles H. Lange has been from his early youth closely associated with the work and management of the fine old homestead farm which he now owns and occupies and which, with its modern improvements and general air of thrift and prosperity, is consistently to be termed one of the model farms of Clayton county, the place being devoted to diversified agriculture and to the raising of good grades of live stock. He profited fully by the advantage afforded in the local schools and it is interesting to note that at the present time he is serving as secretary of the school board of the district in which he himself acquired his early education, this office having been held by him since 1912. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and he is affiliated with the Masons, the Royal Neighbors and the Modern Woodmen of America. His wife holds membership in the Royal Neighbors and also the Order of the Eastern Star. They are active communicants of the Lutheran church and have a wide circle of friends in their native county. On the 16th of January, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Lange to Miss Minnie Ortman, who was born in Volga township, this county, and who is a daughter of Henry and Sophia (Musfeldt) Ortman, the former a native of Germany and the latter of the state of New York. Mr. Ortman was thirteen years of age when he came with his parents to Clayton county and he was numbered among the representative farmers of Volga township for many years prior to his retirement and removal to the village of Littleport, where he and his wife now reside, as does also William, the eldest of their children; Martha, the second child, is the wife of John Bock, of Elkader; Mrs. Lange was the next in order of birth and her twin brother, Louis, is now living on the old home place; Ilda is the wife of Elmer Gifford, of Littleport, and at the parental home in that village remain the three younger children, George, Karl, and Edna. Mr. and Mrs. Lange have five children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here indicated: Luella, January 1, 1902; Ruby and Ruey, twins, May 22, 1905; Milton, January 26, 1908; and Leland, April 9, 1911.

**Fred W. Lange** is one of the native sons of Clayton county who continue to pay loyal allegiance to the county and to mark their appreciation of its splendid resources and manifold attractions. Of broad-minded progressiveness, Mr. Lange has demonstrated his vigorous and resourceful spirit through his active association with agricultural and live-stock industry in his native county and he holds definite precedence as a grower of fine Jersey

and Guernsey cattle. He takes much satisfaction in being the owner of the fine old homestead farm of his parents, both of whom are now deceased and the memories of both of whom are held in high honor in the county that long represented their home and was the stage of their earnest and fruitful endeavors. Fred W. Lange was born in Giard township, this county, on the 21st of September, 1868, and is a son of Adam and Anne (Froelich) Lange, both of whom were born in Hessen, Germany, and the latter of whom was a child at the time of her parents' immigration to America, the family having settled in Clayton county, Iowa, in the early pioneer days and its name being perpetuated in that of the village of Froelich. Adam Lange was reared and educated in his native land and as a young man he came to the United States and established his home in Giard township, Clayton county, Iowa. Here he was employed at farm work for several years, his services in this capacity having been given on the farm of Mr. Schneider and Henry Froelich, both influential pioneer farmers of the county. He finally purchased the farm of one hundred acres on which his son Fred W., of this review, now lives, and with augmented prosperity he added fifty acres to his landed estate, which he developed into one of the fine farms of the county. Here he passed the residue of his life, secure in the high regard of all who knew him and attended by the gracious prosperity that resulted from his own honest and effective efforts. His death occurred about the year 1911 and his wife preceded him to eternal rest, both having been devoted members of the Evangelical Church, in which he served most effectively as Sunday-school superintendent. He did well his part in connection with civic and industrial activities in Clayton county and while he had no ambition for political preferment he gave staunch support to the cause of the Republican party. Of the children the firstborn was John, who is deceased; August is a resident of Portland, Oregon; Henry maintains his residence at Rockford, Illinois; Carl is deceased; Fred W., of this sketch, was the fifth child; Julius resides at Rolfe, Pocahontas county, Iowa; Elizabeth is deceased; and Amelia is the wife of Harry B. Northcut, of Sterling, Colorado. Fred W. Lange received not only the advantages of the public schools of Giard township but also those of the Palmer Business College, in the city of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Thereafter he was employed for some time as a clerk in the mercantile establishment of Adam Schneider, at Monona, and finally he engaged in the general merchandise business in the village of Froelich, where he continued his operations until 1900, when he sold his stock and business and purchased the old home farm of his father. He has made various improvements on this fine domain of one hundred and fifty acres and thrift and prosperity are shown forth in such a way as to offer palpable evidence of his progressiveness and good management. Though he gives due attention to diversified agriculture, he is making a specialty of the raising of the best type of Jersey and Guernsey cattle and has recognized precedence in this line of enterprise in his native county. Mr. Lange is vitally interested in all things tending to advance the

civic and material welfare of the community, is a Republican in his political allegiance, and both he and his wife hold membership in the German Methodist Episcopal church, their attractive home being a center of generous hospitality. In the year 1900 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Lange to Miss Lena Albert, who was born and reared in Giard township, and who is a daughter of William Albert, a representative farmer of that part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Lange have three children—Carl L., Kenneth, and Wesley.

**Albert R. Larson** is another of the vigorous and progressive citizens who are upholding the high prestige of Clayton county as a center of prosperous enterprise along the lines of agricultural and live-stock industry, and his well improved farm, comprising one hundred and forty acres, is eligibly situated in Section 10, Highland township, in which township he has maintained his home from the time of his birth, the date of his nativity having been March 3, 1870. He is a son of R. C., and Rachel Larson, both natives of Norway and both young at the time when their parents came to America and established their residence in Clayton county, in the pioneer period of the history of this section of the Hawkeye state. R. C. Larson was a lad of nine years at the time of the family immigration to America and during the long intervening years he has been a resident of Clayton county, where he has achieved success through his connection with agricultural industry and where he and his wife still reside on their old homestead farm, in Highland township, his political support being given to the Republican party and the abiding religious faith of the family being that of the Norwegian Lutheran church. The eldest of the children of this honored pioneer couple is Mary, who is the wife of E. E. Gunderson, of Highland township; Christ is now a resident of North Dakota; the subject of this sketch is the third child; Julia remains at the parental home; Sophia is the wife of B. O. Paulson, of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota; and Henry is a resident of Edgerton, Wisconsin. Albert R. Larson continued his effective association with the activities of the home farm until he had gained the dignity of his legal majority, and in the meanwhile he had profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools. At the age of twenty-one years he rented the home farm, and after having there continued his successful operations in an independent way for a period of five years he purchased his present farm, which he has made one of the really model places of his native township and which is the stage of his energetic and successful activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower. He is a Republican in politics and both he and his wife hold membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church. Their pleasant home is a few miles distant from Elkader, the county seat, and from that place it receives service on rural mail route No. 3. On the 18th of June, 1896, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Larson to Miss Mary Larson, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of Peter and Carrie (Benson) Larson. Mr. and Mrs. Larson became the parents of eight children, of whom the last two, died in fancy. The



surviving children, all of whom still remain at the parental home are: Isabel, Philemon, Nella, Glenn, Paul and Laurence.

**Chris P. Larson** has found in his native township ample opportunity for carrying forward of successful activities as an up-to-date agriculturist and stock-grower, and it is specially pleasing to record that his well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres, in Section 2, Highland township, is the place of his nativity, his birth having here occurred on the 25th of September, 1876. He is a son of Peter and Carrie (Benson) Larson, sterling citizens of whom adequate mention is made on other pages, in the sketch dedicated to Edward P. Larson, an elder brother of him whose name initiates this article. Chris P. Larson felt the urge of intellectual ambition to such a degree as to cause him in his youth to profit duly by the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county, and he has from his boyhood been closely associated with the work and management of the fine old homestead farm which he now owns, this property, comprising one hundred and twenty acres, having been purchased by him in 1911, and his mail service being received through the medium of rural route No. 3 from Elkader, the county seat. His political support is given to the cause of the Republican party, his religious faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and he is to be designated as one of the popular bachelors and public-spirited citizens of his native county, where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances.

**Edward P. Larson** is a representative of one of the honored and influential pioneer families of Clayton county and his parents were numbered among the sterling Scandinavian citizens who settled in this section of the state in the early days and gave splendid impetus to civic and industrial development and progress, besides which his father manifested high loyalty to the land of his adoption by serving as a Union soldier in the Civil war. He whose name introduces this review is one of the specially progressive and popular exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in his native county and is the owner of a fine landed estate in Highland township, the village of Elgin being his postoffice address. He was born in the township that is now his home, and the date of his nativity was October 27, 1871. He is a son of Peter and Carrie (Benson) Larson, both of whom were born in Norway. Peter Larson was reared and educated in his native land and was a young man when he immigrated to the United States. He was but seventeen years of age when, on the 3rd of December, 1863, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and went forth to aid in the defense of the nation's integrity, his company having been commanded by Captain T. Hulburt. He served during the remainder of the war and received his honorable discharge on the 29th of May, 1865, at Springfield, Illinois. Within a short time after the close of his service as a valiant soldier of the Union he returned to Clayton county, Iowa, where he had lived for a time prior to entering the ranks of the Union army, and from the modest little farm of eighty acres which he here

purchased as a youthful veteran he eventually developed a valuable and well improved landed estate of two hundred and eleven acres, in Section 3, Highland township. Here he continued his activities as a successful farmer and loyal and honored citizen until ten months prior to his death, when he removed to the village of Gunder, where he passed to the life eternal on the 1st of August, 1910, his cherished and devoted wife having died in November, 1894, and both having been earnest communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church. They became the parents of six children, of whom the eldest is Lars, another of the representative farmers of Highland township; the subject of this review was the second child; Henry is a prosperous agriculturist in Wagner township; Maggie is the wife of Albert R. Larson of Highland township; Christ is one of the substantial farmers of Highland township; and Belle is deceased. Edward P. Larson in his boyhood and youth broadened his mental ken by availing himself consistently of the advantages of the public schools of his native county and simultaneously he fortified himself in practical knowledge by lending his quota of assistance in the work of his father's farm. He remained at the parental home until he had attained to his legal majority, and he then began an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade, in which he became a competent artisan. For some time he was engaged in the operation of a drilling machine and a threshing outfit, and in 1900 he resumed his active and independent association with agricultural pursuits. It was at this time that he purchased in his native township a farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres, and to this excellent property he has since added until he now has a fine farm of two hundred and thirty-nine and one-half acres, in Section 3, Highland township. The permanent improvements are of the most approved modern type and include an attractive brick house of two stories and the best of barns and other farm buildings. Mr. Larson is not only one of the energetic, sagacious and progressive representatives of agricultural and live-stock industry in his native county but is also liberal and public-spirited as a citizen. He is serving in 1916 as township trustee, a preferment that indicates the high estimate placed upon him in his native community, and his political allegiance is given to the Republican party. Both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Highland. In May, 1899, Mr. Larson wedded Mrs. Julia (Thompson) Knutson, widow of Thomas Knutson, the one child of her first marriage being Lena B. Knutson. Mr. and Mrs. Larson have five children, and their names and respective dates of birth are here indicated: Peter, July 15, 1900; Cora, August 10, 1902; Orvald, September 15, 1905; Mabel, October 15, 1908; and Elmer G., April 30, 1912.

Charles J. Lembke has special reason to take satisfaction in the precedence that is his as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-raisers of his native county, for he is the owner of the well improved farm, in Monona township, which figures as the old homestead of his parents and as the place of his nativity. He was here ushered into the world on the 18th of October, 1874, and is the

second in order of birth of the three children of Henry and Minnie (Rice) Lembke, both natives of Germany and both well known and honored citizens of Clayton county, their home being now in the village of Monona, where, after having won independence and prosperity through well ordered endeavor, the father is now living virtually retired. At the parental home remains Henry, Jr., the eldest of the three children, and the youngest is Emma, who is the wife of Charles Klingermann, of Monona. Henry Lembke, Sr., was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, on the 3rd of February, 1840, and was reared and educated in that section of the Fatherland, where he remained until about the year 1868, when, as an ambitious young man dependent upon his own resources, he came to the United States and established his home in Clayton county, Iowa. After devoting about two years to service for others, as a farm workman in Farmersburg township, he purchased land in Monona township and initiated what proved a specially successful career as an independent agriculturist. He continued his active association with the management of his farm until he was nearly seventy years of age, and since 1907 he has lived in well earned retirement in the village of Monona, where he owns an attractive residence property and where he and his wife are surrounded by friends who are tried and true. Mr. Lembke has given his support to the Democratic party from the time he became a naturalized citizen of his adopted land and both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the German Lutheran church at Monona. Charles J. Lembke is indebted to the public schools of Monona township for his early educational discipline and he continued to be associated with his father in the work of the home farm until he finally rented the same and assumed entire supervision of its operations. In 1907 he purchased this fine old homestead, which comprises one hundred and twenty acres, and here he stands forth as an exemplar of scientific and progressive enterprise in connection with the fundamental industries of agriculture and stock-raising. He gives special attention to the raising of high-grade cattle and the Chester White type of swine. Though loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities, Mr. Lembke has manifested no ambition for public office and his political activities have been represented in his loyal support of the cause of the Democratic party. He is affiliated with political activities have been represented in his loyal support with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Monona. On the 1st of June, 1903, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Lembke to Miss Minnie Schroeder, who was born at Guttenberg, this county, on the 11th of June, 1874, and who is a daughter of John and Mary (Tuecke) Schroeder, who now reside in the village of Monona. Mr. Schroeder, who is now retired from active life, was born in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, and he came with his parents from the old Buckeye state to gain incidental prestige as a pioneer of Clayton county, Iowa, the family home having been established in the Guttenberg community. He became one of the prosperous farmers of Monona township and since his retirement he has maintained his



home at Monona, as previously noted. He is a Republican in politics and both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. Mrs. Schroeder was born at Guttenberg, this county, and is a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of this section of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Lembke have three children, and their names and respective dates of birth are here given: Erwin, April 20, 1904; Lorena, November 28, 1906; and Verni, August 10, 1909.

**Harry W. Lemka**, of Cox Creek township, Clayton county, is the son of Carl and Lena (Dohrer) Lemka. Carl Lemka was born in Read township, this county, August 20, 1857, and his parents were Henry and Anna (Penno) Lemka, natives of Clayton county and of Germany, respectively. Carl was reared in Cox Creek township and acquired his education in the public schools. Three years after his marriage he purchased a farm of one hundred acres in Boardman township, which he has increased to one hundred and eighty acres. In 1915 he bought a farm of forty-one acres in Cox Creek township on which he is now living. He is a Democrat in politics, is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and, with his wife, is a communicant of the German Lutheran church. Of their three children, Harry W., whose name heads this sketch, is the eldest, and lives at home with the parents; Hilda is the wife of George Hubbard, who lives on the homestead in Boardman township, and Raymond remains at the parental home. Harry W. Lemka is one of the successful young farmers of the county who takes an interest in all the modern methods of scientific farming and stock raising. His training has qualified him for the successful pursuit of agriculture and his outlook on life hopeful and highly encouraging to him and to his friends. He is a Democrat and a member of the German Lutheran church. His name is still on the roll of eligible young bachelors of Clayton county.

**Albert Lenth** is another well known and popular representative of that sterling German contingent of citizenship which has wielded potent influence in the social and material development and upbuilding of Clayton county, and he is one of the substantial farmers of Farmersburg township, where he is the owner of a well-improved homestead place of one hundred and thirty-one acres and where, in connection with general agricultural enterprise, he has given special attention to and been successful in the raising of the fine Red Polled cattle. Mr. Lenth was born on the farm of his father in Farmersburg township, this county, and the date of his nativity was August 22, 1870. He is a son of Carl and Dorothea (Schmalfeld) Lenth, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, whence they came to America and established their home in Clayton county in the early pioneer days. Here the father long held precedence as an energetic, enterprising and successful farmer, with impregnable standing as a loyal and honored citizen, and he continued to reside on his old homestead farm until his death, which occurred in December, 1915. He was a zealous communicant of the Lutheran church, as is also his widow, who still remains on the old home place, and of their twelve children seven

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survive the honored father. Albert Lenth found the period of his childhood and youth compassed by the conditions and influence of the home farm and early began to contribute his quota to its work, the while he made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools. He continued to be associated in the management of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty years, when he purchased his present farm, in Section 19, Farmersburg township, where he has since continued his well-ordered operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower, of which important lines of industrial enterprise he is one of the representative exponents in his native county. He is a stockholder of the Farmers' Bank at St. Olaf, is a Democrat in his political allegiance and served four years as school director of his district, this being the only public office for which he has consented to become a candidate. With the effective co-operation of his wife, who has proved a true helpmeet, he has achieved success and independence, and to the gaining of this end they have put forth their best efforts with thorough harmony of motive and action. Both are communicants of the Lutheran church at Farmersburg and in their native county their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances. In the year 1896 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Lenth to Miss Louise Gottschalk, who was born and reared in Reed township, this county, her parents being sterling pioneer citizens of that township, where they still reside on their old homestead farm. Mrs. Lenth is a daughter of William and Wilhelmina (Crepeline) Gottschalk, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, their home having been established in Clayton county within a short time after their immigration to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Lenth have ten children, namely: Wesley, Harold, Mabel, Milton, Leona, Roy, Lucy, Aaron, Alva, and Rosina.

**George Lenth**, a successful and prominent business man of Elkader, Iowa, was born March 17, 1875. He is of German parentage, his father, Joachim, having been born in Mecklenburg, Germany, and the mother was a native of the historic Rhine region. Joachim Lenth was a prosperous farmer of Clayton county, who died July 3, 1913, but his wife still lives and conducts the home farm. To their union were born eight children: Bertha, who is the wife of W. M. Grube, of South Dakota; Emma, married to J. K. Rupp, and living in Monona, Iowa; William C., of Evanston, Illinois; Charles, died in India as missionary; Henry F., who is a farmer at Riceville, Iowa; George, with whom this sketch is concerned; Louis C., who is a feed merchant in Elkader; and Ella, who is the wife of Charles Harbrichter, of Monona, Iowa. George Lenth remained on the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age, then started out to make his own way in the world by first working on neighboring farms for a period of three years, after which he gave up agricultural pursuits and started upon his busy and varied career as a business man by entering the employ of a livery firm for one year, then buying a half interest in the firm. Continuing in this occupation a term of three years, having enlarged it by the purchase of a dray and bus line and by the addition of a coal and

fuel business, he finally disposed of his interests in everything except the coal and ice business. In 1913 he widened his field of activities by opening a music store, the only one of its kind in Elkader. This business has grown so rapidly and to such large proportions that in 1915 he disposed of his ice, feed and coal interests in order to devote his time entirely to his music business. To the latter he added the sale of Edison Diamond Disc phonographs, of which in less than two years he sold a car load. On November 15, 1897, he married Ella Schock, a native of Elkader, and they have one child, Lawrence, born in July 1904. Mr. Lenth's great and absorbing business affairs have precluded any active participation in political work, but he is a loyal member of the Republican party. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and to the Order of Eastern Star, and is affiliated with the Congregational church.

**John Lenth** has maintained his residence in Clayton county for nearly half a century, has been an energetic, discriminating and successful exponent of agricultural industry and still gives his personal supervision to the operations of his fine homestead farm in Farmersburg township, where his sterling integrity and his worthy achievement have marked him as fully entitled to the esteem in which he is uniformly held. Mr. Lenth was born in Mecklenberg, Germany, on the 27th of May, 1851, and is a son of Christian and Mary Lenth, who there passed their entire lives and of whose twelve children eight are still living. He whose name introduces this review was reared in his native land, where his early educational advantages were those offered in the excellent national schools, and in November, 1869, when eighteen years of age, he severed the ties that bound him to home and fatherland and set forth to seek his fortunes in the United States. Within a short time after his arrival in the land of his adoption he came to Clayton county and obtained work on a farm in Farmersburg township. Industrial and frugal, he carefully saved his earnings and pressed forward to the goal of independence and successful individual accomplishment. The years have brought to him gracious rewards, and he has long been known as one of the substantial farmers of Farmersburg township. He made improvements on the farm which he purchased in his youth and there continued operations until 1903, when he sold the old homestead to his son, Alfred F., and purchased his present fine landed estate, which comprises two hundred and forty-two and one-half acres, of which forty acres are timbered land, his place being under a high state of cultivation, being eligibly situated in Section 3, Farmersburg township, and being one of the model farms of the county, with thrift and prosperity in evidence on every hand. Mr. Lenth has shown his sense of stewardship by the hearty interest he has taken in all things pertaining to the communal welfare and while never a seeker of official preferment, he is now giving most efficient and loyal service as treasurer of his school district. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which they were reared. On October 6th in the year 1882 Mr. Lenth married Miss Lena Rohde, who likewise was born in Germany, one

of the seven children of Christian and Minnie (Lehmann) Rohde, who came to the United States in 1874 and established their home in Clayton county, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Lenth became the parents of seven children, all of whom are living except one: Alfred F. and Arnold are successful farmers of the younger generation in their native county; Elmer J. is associated with his father in the operations of the home farm; Hilma and Olga E. likewise remain at the parental home; Leona E. died at the age of about seventeen years; and Clara M. is a student in the college of Waverly, Bremer county, at the time of this writing, in 1916.

**John P. Lenth** is another popular representative of that fine German element of citizenship that has been prominently and worthily concerned with the civic and industrial development and upbuilding of Clayton county, where he is a scion of the second generation of an honored pioneer family that was here founded fully seventy years ago. He is now one of the representative farmers of Farmersburg township and is a native son of Clayton county who is specially entitled to recognition in this history. Mr. Lenth was born in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 11th of November, 1860, and his parents, John and Annie Lenth, were both born and reared in Germany, though their marriage was solemnized after they had become residents of the United States. John Lenth was born and reared in Mecklenburg, Germany, whence he immigrated to America about the year 1845. Soon after his arrival in the land of his adoption he came to Clayton county and established his residence in Garnavillo township. For several years he was employed as a farm hand and finally he purchased a farm near St. Olaf, in Farmersburg township, where he achieved substantial success through his earnest and energetic operations as an agriculturist and where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, secure in the esteem of all who knew them and both were devout communicants of the Lutheran church. Of the five surviving children the subject of this review is the eldest; Joseph W., Frank and August are prosperous farmers of Monona township, and Herman has similar precedence in Farmersburg township. John P. Lenth was reared on his father's farm and gained his early education in the schools of Farmersburg township. His independent career was initiated by his finding employment at farm work, and his ambition led him to make good use of his opportunities and the rewards of his labors. In 1886, as a young man of twenty-five years, he purchased one hundred and seventy-one acres of land in Farmersburg township, and to the same he later added an adjoining tract of eighty acres, so that he now has a valuable landed domain of two hundred and fifty-one acres. Within the thirty years of his independent operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower Mr. Lenth has been indefatigable in his industry, circumspect and progressive in his policies, and has gained prestige as one of the prosperous and enterprising farmers and public-spirited citizens of his native county. He is a stockholder and director of the Luana Savings Bank, is a staunch sup-



porter of the cause of the Democratic party, has served effectively in the office of township trustee and as a member of the school board, and both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Lutheran church at Luana, which is their postoffice address. On the 14th of December, 1887, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Lenth to Miss Dora Harnack, who was born in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 31st of October, 1862, a daughter of Joseph and Dora (Hahn) Harnack, who were born and reared in Mecklenburg, Germany, and who became residents of Clayton county, Iowa, about the year 1855. The father became one of the substantial pioneer farmers of the county and was a resident on his farm in Garnavillo township until the time of his death, his widow being now a resident of the village of Monona. Mr. and Mrs. Lenth have a fine family of eleven children: Ella is the wife of Benjamin Jarms, of Monona township, and they have two children, Edna and Myron; Hilda is the wife of Hubert Miller, of Monona township, and they have one child, Helen; Gustav is a successful farmer in Wagner township, is married and has one son, Harvey; John A. is identified with agricultural pursuits in Wagner township, and the other children remain at the parental home, namely, Wilber, Elmer, Ernest, Hubert, Louis, Esther and Nora.

**Joseph T. Leonard**, a successful business man of Elkader, Iowa, was born in New York City May 17, 1870. He is the son of John and Sarah (Holan) Leonard, both natives of the Emerald Isle, the former of County Dublin, born in 1831, and the latter of County Meath, born in 1836. John Leonard came to America with his parents Richard and Julia (Dunn) Leonard in 1842, where they located in Fall River, Massachusetts, remaining until 1855; they then went to Clayton county, Iowa, where the father engaged in farming until his death in 1858, his wife dying two years later. When John Leonard, the father of our subject, was seventeen years of age, he started out to make his own place in the world by learning the machinists' trade, after which he went to New York City and was in the employ of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, working in the shops of that concern for twenty-five years. In 1875 he turned his back on city life, and came west to a farm in Clayton county, Iowa, engaging in agriculture until his death. He and his wife were the parents of ten children: William H., who died December, 1915; Richard, who resides on a farm near Elkader; Alice, married to A. Ballbright; Sarah, the wife of Louis Meder, of Oklahoma; Charles, of Fargo, North Dakota; Joseph, with whom this sketch deals particularly; and Fred, a farmer of Clayton county. Joseph assisted in the management of his father's farm of five hundred acres until he was thirty-one years old, but after his marriage, at this time, he bought a farm of one hundred acres for himself, conducting a creamery business in connection with it. This grew so rapidly and to such large proportions that he was obliged to go to Elkader, where he could obtain better facilities for the handling of his cream. His business now amounts to the gratifying sum of three thousand two hundred dollars a year, and

is conducted under the name of Crown Brand Creamery. During the course of a year they handle two hundred and thirty-seven thousand six hundred and fifty-eight pounds of cream, fifty-five thousand nine hundred and sixty pounds of poultry, and forty-three thousand seven hundred and forty-seven dozen eggs. He also conducts a large ice cream business, shipping over five thousand gallons a year, and his reputation as an ice cream manufacturer is such that he has received a splendid offer from one of Iowa's colleges as instructor, which offer, on account of his large business affairs, he was forced to decline. Mr. Leonard is an open-minded man in his political convictions and therefore belongs to the Independent party. He was married February 6, 1901, to Anna Walker, a daughter of Henry Walker and Mary Ellen (Kiefer) Walker, both of whom are old and highly respected residents of Mederville and who have both been connected with the early history of Clayton county. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard are the proud parents of two children, Florence, 13 years, and Clarence, 7 years of age.

**Laurence L. Linder** is effectively proving his progressiveness and facility as one of the representative business men of the younger generation in the vital little city of Volga, where he was for a time associated with Edward Gleason in the ownership and conduct of a well-equipped hardware store. He was born in Volga township, this county, on the 26th of August, 1891, and is a son of George Theodore and Amelia Matilda (Younkman) Linder, the former of whom was born and reared in this county, a representative of a sterling pioneer family, and the latter of whom was born in the state of Pennsylvania. Of their three children the first, Ada, died in infancy; Lawrence L., of this review, was the second; and the youngest is Dola, who remains with his parents on the homestead farm. Laurence L. Linder continued his studies in the public schools until he had completed the curriculum of the Volga high school, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1908. Thereafter he continued his association with the work and management of his father's farm until 1913, when he purchased an interest in the Shales hardware establishment at Volga. Subsequently Shales sold to Gleason and on April 26, 1916, the latter sold out his interest to Mr. Linder and he has since continued a vigorous and popular factor in the direction of the substantial and prosperous enterprise. His political proclivities are indicated by his alignment with the Democratic party. His wife is a member of the Catholic church at Volga. On the 20th of September, 1914, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Linder to Miss May Cecelia Quinn, and they have a fine little son, Laurence Leroy, who was born May 4, 1915.

**George F. Lindroth.**—That community, no matter how inconspicuous, that can not claim provisions in the line of garage and general automobile facilities may consistently be said to fall below the standard set for the present day, and it is thus pleasing to note that in the village of Luana, Clayton county, the best of service is given in the well equipped garage conducted by Mr. Lindroth, who is one of the popular and energetic business men of the

younger generation in his native county. He was born in Reed township, this county, on the 7th of April, 1877, and is a son of Fred and Mary (Bueder) Lindroth, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, where their marriage was solemnized and where the father served a thorough apprenticeship to the trade of stone-cutter, in which he became a skilled artisan. About the year 1868 Fred Lindroth and his wife immigrated to America and established their home in the city of Buffalo, New York, where he engaged in the work of his trade. In 1872 this sterling citizen established his residence in Read township, Clayton county, where he was engaged in the work of his trade for a time. He finally purchased a farm near Elkader, the county seat, and there he continued his successful activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower until his death, his wife also having remained on the old homestead until her death and both having been devout communicants of the German Lutheran Church, while the political allegiance of Mr. Lindroth was given to the Democratic party. He and his wife were earnest, industrious and worthy citizens who made their lives count for good in every relation and who held the unqualified esteem of all who knew them. Their eldest child, Charles, is now a resident of Hartford, South Dakota; Elizabeth is deceased; Fred likewise is a resident of Hartford, South Dakota; William maintains his home at Guttenberg, Clayton county; Frank is a resident of Luana, this county; George F., of this review, was the sixth child; and Lena is the wife of Henry Holtz, of Guttenberg, this county. To the public schools of his native county George F. Lindroth is indebted for his early educational training, and after leaving the home farm he was employed at farm work for others until, at the age of twenty-one years, he purchased a farm of his own, in Monona township. He proved an ambitious and enterprising agriculturist and stock-grower and was not denied a due measure of success in connection with his energetic and well ordered operations as a farmer. He remained on his farm until 1913, when he established his home in the village of Luana, where he has since been successfully engaged in the conducting of a garage and general automobile business, in which his valued coadjutor and partner is Fred C. Schultz, of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this work. The firm have the local agency for the well known Studebaker and Chevrolet automobiles, have a well equipped repair shop, and own the substantial garage building which they erected for the purpose and which is thirty by sixty feet in dimensions, the establishment giving employment to three assistants. Mr. Lindroth is president of the Luana Town Hall Company, served one term as president and general manager of the Farmers Telephone Company, and during an incumbency of four years he was a loyal and progressive member of the village council of Luana, besides which he held for two terms the position of constable. His political convictions are indicated by the stalwart support which he gives to the Democratic party, and both he and his wife hold to the religious faith in which they were reared—that of the German Lutheran Church. On the 20th of September,



1898, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Lindroth to Miss Louisa Heins, who was born in Read township, this county, on the 28th of December, 1874, and whose educational advantages were those afforded in the public schools of Luana. She is a daughter of Henry and Fredericka (Kuss) Heins, who were born in Germany. Mr. Heins came to Clayton county in 1861 and found employment in and about Garnavillo. In 1867 he went to California, but five years later he returned to Clayton county, where for many years he was one of the active and successful exponents of agricultural industry in Read township. Since leaving his farm he has lived retired in the village of Luana, his devoted wife having passed away on the 18th of March, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Lindroth became the parents of three children, of whom the first two, Rosina and Rodena, are deceased. The only son, Arnold, is still attending school.

**David P. Lowe.**—Though he claims the Badger state as the place of his nativity, David P. Lowe has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a child of three years and during the long intervening period of nearly three score years and ten he has resided continuously on the old homestead farm, in Section 4, Sperry township, where his honored parents established themselves upon coming from Wisconsin to this county in the year 1847. The father was numbered among the very early settlers of Sperry township, where he reclaimed a farm from what was virtually a wilderness and where it was within his privilege and ambition to contribute generously and effectively to the social and material development and upbuilding of the county. He whose name initiates this review has long been one of the representative agriculturists of the township in which he was reared from childhood and in which he has been active and influential in community affairs continuously save for the period of his absence from home when serving as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war. Righteousness and resolute purpose have characterized his entire career, and now that the shadows of his earnest life begin to lengthen from the golden west he rests secure in the high regard of all who know him and compassed by the conditions that make for peace, prosperity and gracious contentment. Mr. Lowe was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, on the 10th of March, 1844, and is now the only living member of a family of nine children born to James M. and Betsy Elizabeth (Bates) Lowe, both of whom were born and reared in Pennsylvania, where they maintained their home until their removal to Rock county, Wisconsin. In the latter state they remained until 1847, when they came to Clayton county and established their home on a pioneer farm of one hundred and sixty acres of government land, the same being an integral part of the finely improved landed estate now owned by their only surviving child, the subject of this review. The father remained on this home place until his death, which was one of tragic order, as he was killed by injuries received when the team which he was driving ran away. He was about 75 years of age at the time of his death, which occurred December 3, 1878, his loved and devoted wife having been summoned to eter-

nal rest on the 14th of August of the preceding year. They were kindly, earnest and sincere folk who placed true valuations on men and conditions and whose lives were replete in good works and gracious deeds. They were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church and assisted in the organization of the first church in Sperry township, the father having likewise been the earnest founder of the first Sunday school in that township. Both he and his wife did all in their power to foster the causes of religion and education and to further high civic ideals in general. Mary, the eldest of their children, was born in 1830 and died young. All of the other children are now deceased with the exception of the subject of this review, who was the next to the youngest, and the names and respective dates of birth of the others are here consistently recorded: Sarah, July 24, 1832; John W., April 30, 1834; Emily, June 24, 1836; Elizabeth, January 30, 1838; James, September 16, 1841; Eliza Ann, January 16, 1843; Marilla, September 18, 1846. David P. Lowe was reared to manhood under the sturdy and benignant influences of the pioneer farm, to the work of which he early began to contribute his effective aid. He thus followed the even tenor of his way until his patriotism prompted him to tender his services in defense of the Union when the nation was plunged in the vortex of civil war. On the 11th of May, 1864, when twenty years of age, he enlisted as a private in Company A, Forty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, J. L. McCormick having been captain of the company. The regiment saw service principally in the states of Arkansas and Tennessee and Mr. Lowe was not called upon to participate in any of the greater battles marking the closing period of the great fratricidal conflict. He received his honorable discharge at Davenport, this state, on the 28th of September, 1864, and then resumed his association with the work and management of his father's farm. He has never abated his interest in his old comrades and indicates this by his active affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. His landed estate now comprises two hundred acres and constitutes one of the splendidly improved and valuable farms of Sperry township, one hundred and sixty acres of the tract being the old home place of Mr. Lowe's parents. Appreciative of the policies and cause for which the Republican party virtually stood sponsor during the climacteric period of the Civil war, Mr. Lowe became affiliated therewith in his young manhood and has never since wavered in his allegiance. He has not sought public office of any kind but has served most effectively as township trustee, a position to which he was called by the importunities and votes of his fellow citizens. He holds membership in the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Volga, which village represents their postoffice address. On the 12th of December, 1866, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Lowe to Miss Elizabeth Ann Dempster, who was born in Wayne county, Michigan, and who is a daughter of John and Margaret (Templeton) Dempster and who came to Iowa about 1852, establishing their home on a pioneer farm in Fayette county, where they passed the remainder

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HENRY LUEHSE

of their lives and where their daughter, Elizabeth Ann, wife of the subject of this review, was reared and educated. The parents were natives of Scotland, the father having been eighty-six years of age at the time of his death, and the mother having passed away December 31, 1907, at the age of 97 years. They became the parents of thirteen children, of whom the eldest is Margaret, who is the widow of Oscar Finch and who resides at Augusta, Wisconsin; William and Thomas are deceased, as are also the next two children, James and Anable; John is a resident of South Dakota; Mary is the widow of George A. Smith and resides in Missouri; Mrs. Lowe, wife of the subject of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Jane resides at Volga, this county, and is the wife of James Bissell; Lavinia, David, Susanna and Luana are deceased, the last two mentioned having been twins. To Mr. and Mrs. Lowe have been born five children, concerning whom brief record is here given: Margaret, who was born July 24, 1867, is the wife of Albert Boleyn, of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this volume; Susanna, who was born December 7, 1869, died on the 17th of the following February; Daniel E., who was born September 24, 1871, remains at the parental home; Harry S. was born January 18, 1877, and died on the 4th of January of the following year, and Clarence E., who was born February 22, 1884, passed away on the 24th of July, 1886.

**Henry Luehsen** has been a resident of Clayton county since his early childhood, is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county and has achieved definite prominence and influence as one of the leading business men and progressive citizens of the thriving village of Garnavillo, where he has been established in the furniture and undertaking business for more than thirty years and where he has served seventeen years as postmaster, an office of which he is the present efficient and valued incumbent. Mr. Luehsen was born in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 14th of June, 1861, and is a son of Henry and Margareta (Luers) Luehsen, both natives of Germany, where the former was born on the 11th of December, 1823, and the latter on the 5th of October, 1818. In his native land Henry Luehsen, Sr., learned the tailor's trade, to which he there devoted his attention until 1850, when he immigrated with his wife to the United States and established his residence in the city of Cincinnati. He continued his residence in Ohio until 1864, when removal was made to Clayton county, Iowa, where he became one of the early settlers in the village of Garnavillo and where he successfully continued in the merchant tailoring business for many years, his death having here occurred in 1903, shortly prior to his eightieth birthday anniversary, and the wife of his young manhood having here been summoned to eternal rest on the 8th of April, 1876, both having been devout communicants of the Lutheran church and his political allegiance having been given to the Republican party. Of the three children the first-born was Herman, who died in childhood, prior to the family immigration to America; Dora was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and she was a resident of National, Clayton

county, Iowa, at the time of her death. She married John Schierholtz. He whose name initiates this review was about three years of age at the time of the family removal to Iowa, and he was reared to manhood in Clayton county, where he duly availed himself of the advantages of the public schools and where he has won marked prestige and prosperity as a man of energy, mature judgment and much progressiveness. He has been for thirty-two years (1916) engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at Garnavillo and is essentially one of the honored and representative citizens of this place. Mr. Luehsen has been influential in public affairs of a local order and has shown a lively interest in all things pertaining to the civic and material welfare of his home county, besides which he has been an active and influential factor in the Clayton county councils of the Republican party. As previously noted, he has given seventeen years of efficient service in the office of postmaster of the village, and for twelve years he was secretary of the Clayton County Fair Association. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran Church, and he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Woodmen. On the 14th of February, 1885, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Luehsen to Miss Mary Ihde, who was born in this county on the 6th of September, 1863, her parents having been sterling pioneers of the county, where they continued to maintain their home until their death. Marvin H., the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Luehsen, was born on the 25th of May, 1886, and the supreme loss and bereavement in their married life came when this devoted son was called to eternal rest, he having been a resident of Garnavillo at the time of his death, which occurred on the 27th of January, 1915.

**Calvin P. Luther** has the distinction of being postmaster of his native village of Guttenberg, a position to which he was appointed in February, 1916, and prior to assuming this incumbency he had made an excellent record of service in other public positions of responsibility. He was born at Guttenberg, Clayton county, on the 11th of April, 1865, and is a son of John and Julia (Goodrich) Luther, the former of whom was born and reared in Switzerland and the latter of whom was born in the state of New York. John Luther immigrated to the United States in 1848 and soon afterward came to Iowa and established his residence at Dubuque. Within a short time thereafter he came to Clayton county and became one of the pioneer settlers of the fine German colony formed at Guttenberg. Here he established a blacksmith shop, and as a skilled artisan he continued in the work of his trade for many years, a sturdy, upright and sagacious citizen who made for himself a place of prominence and influence in community affairs. He is now venerable in years and is living retired in the village that has long been his home and in the development and upbuilding of which he has aided in generous measure. He is a Democrat in his political faith and adherency, has served as a member of the board of supervisors, as a member of the village council and as mayor of Guttenberg. He is affiliated with the local lodge of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons and he is still a vital and influential figure in



the community life, with secure place in the confidence and good will of his fellow men. His cherished and devoted wife passed to the life eternal a number of years ago, and of their children the subject of this sketch, Calvin P., is the eldest; Mary is the wife of George Kreglow, of Foley, Minnesota; Ella is the wife of John Stoeffler, of Seattle, Washington; John E. is a resident of the city of Spokane, Washington; Bertha E. is the wife of William Wilson, of St. Louis, Missouri; William, the youngest of the children, likewise resides in St. Louis. After profiting fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools of Guttenberg, Calvin P. Luther entered upon a practical apprenticeship to the blacksmith trade, under the able and punctilious direction of his father, and he continued his active association with the operations of his father's shop for a period of about fifteen years. In the meanwhile he had so ordered his course as to retain the unequivocal confidence and good will of the people of his native place, and thus he was distinctly eligible when he was chosen the incumbent of the office of city marshal, in which position he continued his effective administration during the protracted period of ten years. Thereafter he served three years as deputy state game warden, and in February, 1916, there came to him still higher official preferment, in his appointment to the position of postmaster, in which he is giving a most efficient and satisfactory administration. Mr. Luther has further honored his native city by former service as a member of its municipal council and by equally effective work during his incumbency of the office of justice of the peace and county constable. He has been vigorous and influential in the local councils of the Democratic party, in behalf of whose cause he has given yeoman service. He is affiliated with the time-honored Masonic fraternity and also with the local organization of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. When a young man of twenty-one years Mr. Luther wedded Miss Ruth Morlend, daughter of the late Jacob Morlend, of Colesburg, Delaware county, and she passed to the life eternal after but three years of wedded life, her only child, Getsie, having been accidentally burned to death at the age of eighteen years. In 1886 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Luther to Miss Annie Stoeffler, who was born and reared at Guttenberg, where she was afforded the excellent advantages of the Catholic parochial schools. She is a daughter of Frank and Annie Marie (Gerner) Stoeffler, who still reside at Guttenberg and both of whom are earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. Stoeffler was born in Germany and was a youth when he came with his parents to America and settled at Guttenberg, where he became associated with his father in the operation of a lime kiln. Several years later he engaged in farming, to which line of enterprise he gave his active attention for many years. He is now living practically retired and is one of the highly esteemed citizens of the county, his political support being given to the Democratic party. Mr. and Mrs. Luther have a fine family of twelve children, whose names are here entered in the respective order of birth: Frank, Bertha, Harold, Jodina, Leroy, Lillian, Deuben, Evelyn, Raymond, Margaret, Bernice, and

Anthony. Frank is engaged as a barber at Guttenberg; Bertha is the wife of Veral Smith, of Cook, Minnesota; and all of the other children remain at the parental home.

**Emil C. Maier** owns and resides upon the fine old homestead farm which figures as the place of his nativity and which is eligibly situated in section 19, Volga township. He has proved specially progressive and resourceful in his independent operations as an agriculturist and practical dairy farmer and he is one of the popular and influential citizens of his native township, with an abiding loyalty to the county that has represented his home from the time of his birth. Emil Charles Maier was born on his present homestead farm, on the 21st of November, 1870, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Lundt) Maier, both of whom were born in Germany and both of whom are honored pioneer citizens of this county, the father having celebrated in 1916 his eighty-third birthday anniversary. Of the children the eldest is Frederick, who is now a resident of Wadena, Fayette county; Anna is the wife of John Stoecker, of Charles City, Floyd county; Emil C., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Mary is deceased, and Alvina and Lucy reside at Rockford, Floyd county. Emil C. Maier was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and in the meanwhile made good use of the advantages afforded in the excellent public schools of his native county. At the age of thirty-two years he rented the home farm from his father, and eleven years later he purchased the property, which comprises one hundred and forty-eight acres of fertile land, equipped with good improvements of a permanent order and maintained as one of the really model farms of this section of the state. Mr. Maier carries forward with energy and discrimination his operations along the line of diversified agriculture and is making the dairy department of his farm enterprise one of important and profitable order. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, and he served six years as a member of the school board of his district. He is secretary and treasurer of the Volga Valley Telephone Company, which gives to its numerous subscribers the best of service, and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the German Lutheran church at Littleport, in which he serves as usher. In the year 1902 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Maier to Miss Anna Schaub, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Traugott and Mannie (Nielbecker) Schaub. Mr. and Mrs. Maier have eight children, namely: Alma, Viola, Pearl, Iona, Florence, Marvin, Verda and Grace. All of the children remain members of the parental home circle, and this attractive family home is known for its gracious and unostentatious hospitality.

**John A. Maiers** is a representative in Clayton county of a line of enterprise that has most important bearing upon the material and civic welfare of the community, as he is successfully established in the real estate business in the village of Monona, in which his operations have grown to wide scope, involving dealing not only in village and farm realty in this part of Iowa, but also in farm lands in both Minnesota and North and South Dakota. He

is a man of circumspection and progressiveness, and his reputation for fair and straightforward dealing in all transactions constitutes a business asset of indubitable value. Mr. Maiers was born in Dubuque county, Iowa, on the 4th of October, 1876, and is a son of John N. and Mary (Ries) Maiers, both natives of Germany and both young at the time of the immigration of the respective families to America. John N. Maiers was a boy when he came with his parents from the Fatherland to the United States, and his father became a pioneer settler in Dubuque county, Iowa, his parents there passing the remainder of their lives in close association with the basic industry of agriculture. John N. was reared to manhood on the pioneer farm, received the advantages of the common schools of the locality and period, and he has continued to the present time his residence in Dubuque county, where he is a substantial farmer and a representative citizen of his home community. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he served for years as township trustee, besides being otherwise influential in public affairs of a local order. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Catholic Church. Of the children, John A., of this review, is the eldest; Nicholas V. is a successful representative of agricultural enterprise in Dubuque county; Anna is the wife of John V. Kluesner, of that county; Frank D. likewise remains in his native county; Michael M. is a resident of Tracy, Minnesota; Emil maintains his home at Luxemburg, Dubuque county, Iowa; Mathew remains at the parental home; and Benjamin died in childhood. John A. Maiers gained his preliminary education in the public schools of his native county, and thereafter he pursued a higher academic course in St. Joseph's College, in the city of Dubuque, where also he attended Bayless Business College, in which he was graduated in 1898. He was graduated in pharmacy in the college at Highland Park, a suburb of the city of Des Moines, as a member of the class of 1901, and for ten years thereafter he was successfully engaged in the drug business at Monona, Clayton county. He then turned his attention to the real estate business, in which his success has been of unequivocal order and in which he now holds prestige as one of the leading exponents of this important line of enterprise in Clayton county. He has a large business of most substantial order, and his real estate operations touch Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Mr. Maiers is progressive and loyal in his civic attitude as well as in his business affairs, and takes a lively interest in all things pertaining to the welfare of his home community and native State. He has served as treasurer and also village clerk of Monona, and is aligned as an unwavering supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. He and his wife are zealous communicants of the Catholic Church and he is affiliated with the local organizations of the Knights of Columbus, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. On the 21st of January, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Maiers to Miss Ida Walsh, who was born and reared in Clayton county and who is a daughter of Andrew and Frances Walsh, well known citizens of



Monona township. Mr. and Mrs. Maiers have three children—Alberta, Marcella, and Mary Frances.

**Horace A. Mallory.**—It has been within the powers and ambition of Horace Allen Mallory to gain and maintain secure place as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county, and special interest attaches to his career by reason of his being a scion of one of the early pioneer families of this section of the Hawkeye state. Though the most of his life thus far has been passed in Clayton county, he was born at Colesburg, Delaware county, this state, and the date of his nativity was February 13, 1865. He is a son of Augustus H. and Rose (Knee) Mallory, the former of whom was born in Genesee county, New York, and the latter in Blair county, Pennsylvania. Augustus H. Mallory was a lad of thirteen years when he came with his parents to Iowa, in 1839, and the family home was established in what is now Section 33 of Mallory township, Clayton county, a township that was named in honor of this well known pioneer family. Augustus H. Mallory gained ample experience in connection with the arduous labors incidental to reclaiming a frontier farm, and later he learned the blacksmith's trade, as an expert workman at which he conducted a successful business at Colesburg, Delaware county, for several years. After his retirement from this business he became the owner of one of the extensive farms of Clayton county, and he continued his residence on this old homestead until his death, which occurred at an advanced age. His widow long survived him and was summoned to eternal rest on the 18th of February, 1916, venerable in years and held in high regard by all who had come within the compass of her gracious influence. Augustus H. Mallory was a man of sturdy independence, was well fortified in his convictions and was a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party. In a fraternal way he was for many years in active affiliation with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Of the children the first born was William, deceased; Samuel G. remains on the old homestead farm he and his only surviving brother, Horace A., of this review, having purchased the entire landed property that had been accumulated by their father; Catherine is the wife of John Palmer, of Mallory township; Horace A. was the fourth child; Alta Mae is the wife of Reuben Smith, of Elk township; Lettie is the wife of Harry Brown, of Elk township; and Bess is the wife of Walter A. Lee, of Britt, this state. Horace Allen Mallory acquired his youthful education in the district schools of Mallory township and remained at the parental home as an active associate in the work of the farm until his father retired, when he and his brother Samuel G. rented the homestead, into the ownership of which they came by the purchase of the interests of the other heirs. Horace A. individually owns three hundred and twenty acres, constituting one of the fine farms of Clayton county, and the substantial and modern buildings that in themselves give evidence of thrift and prosperity have been erected by the present owner. Mr. Mallory has not only carried forward his agricultural operations with the progressiveness that implies the utilization of

the most modern appliances and the approved scientific methods, but he has also been specially successful in the raising of high-grade live-stock, including Durham cattle and Jersey Red swine. He has not hedged himself in with the interests of mere personal advancement but has shown a loyal and public spirited concern in all things pertinent to the communal welfare, the while he has been distinctively influential in public affairs in his township and county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and he was for two years a member of the board of county supervisors, on which he served with characteristic discrimination and loyalty, as did he also in the offices of township clerk and assessor and in that of secretary of the school board of his district. At Colesburg he is affiliated with the lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and in the time-honored Masonic fraternity he is affiliated also with the chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Greeley and with the consistory of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the city of Clinton. The name of Mr. Mallory is still enrolled on the list of eligible bachelors in Clayton county.

**James L. Mathews, Jr.**, is one of the progressive and representative business men of the younger generation in his native county, where he is associated with his father and brother Leigh in the conducting of a flourishing garage and general automobile business at Farmersburg. He was born on a farm in Wagner township, Clayton county, on the 24th of November, 1877, and is a son of James L. and Iona (Layton) Mathews, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana, the parents being now numbered among the sterling pioneer citizens of the county, where their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances. James L. Mathews, Sr., was reared and educated in the Buckeye State and came to Iowa about the year 1856, when he was a youth. In Wagner township, Clayton county, he acquired a tract of wild land, which he developed into one of the excellent farms of this section of the state, and in connection with which he gained substantial success. He became the owner of a large landed estate and continued to give his attention to agricultural industry until 1890, when he removed from his farm to the village of Farmersburg, where he engaged in the pump business. From this line of enterprise he was gradually drawn into the automobile trade, in which he is associated at the present time with his sons, under the firm name of James L. Mathews & Sons. In 1916 this progressive firm completed the erection of a substantial and attractive building for the accommodation of its large and constantly expanding business, and this building is of hollow brick and steel construction. It is fireproof and is fifty by one hundred feet in dimensions, the large floor space being well arranged for general garage purposes and for the display of automobiles. The firm handles the celebrated Overland, Hudson and Hupmobile motor cars and keeps a full complement of repairs and accessories, with the best of garage facilities. He whose name initiates this article is the eldest in a family of five children; Ruth is the wife of Louis Raaloff, a prosperous

agriculturist of Farmersburg township; and Leigh, Glenn and Gladys remain at the parental home. James L. Mathews, Jr., found the period of his childhood and early youth compassed by the benignant and invigorating influences of the home farm, and after having profited by the advantages of the local schools he further fortified himself by a thorough course in the Cedar Rapids Business College, in which institution he continued his studies eighteen months. Thereafter he held for one year a clerical position in the offices of the Cedar Rapids Transfer Company, after which he was similarly engaged in the Cedar Rapids freight office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad until 1910, when he became associated with his father's business activities at Farmersburg, as one of the interested principals in the firm of James L. Mathews & Sons. Like his father, he is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, and both as a citizen and as a business man he is known for his loyalty and public spirit, as well as for his steadfast integrity of purpose. In 1914 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Mathews to Miss Ella Schrader, who was born in Wayne township, this county, and they have a fine little son, James John.

**Theodore Matt** is another of the native sons of Clayton county who has had the good judgment here to continue his allegiance to the great fundamental industry under whose benign influences he was reared, and he now has well fortified vantage-place as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of Farmersburg township, his well improved homestead being situated in Section 10 and comprising one hundred and four and one-half acres of most fertile land, in addition to which he owns also ten acres of valuable timber land, in Section 12 of the same township. His success represents the direct result of the application of his own ability and efforts and he has reason to take pride in being one of the sturdy and valued yeomen of Clayton county. He was the second in order of birth in a family of eight children, all of whom are living, and is a son of Joseph and Anna M. (Beins) Matt, both likewise natives of Clayton county and representatives of sterling pioneer families. Joseph Matt has long been one of the prosperous farmers of this county and commands the high regard of the community in which virtually his entire life thus far has been passed, his devoted wife having been summoned to eternal rest. Theodore Matt passed the period of his childhood and early youth on the home farm and is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his educational discipline. He remained at the parental home until the time of his marriage, in 1903, when he purchased his present farm, which is one of the finely improved places of Farmersburg township and the operations of which he is carrying forward with consummate discrimination and well directed energy, his wife proving his devoted coadjutor in his progressive activities as one of the substantial agriculturists of this section of the Hawkeye state. He is a zealous supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, but has not sought public office, though he is serving most effectively as a director of the school district in which he lives. Both he and his



wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at McGregor, which village is their postoffice address. The year 1903 recorded the marriage of Mr. Matt to Miss Etta Gossman, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county, as were also her parents, who are well known citizens of Clayton township, and of whose six children five are living. Mr. and Mrs. Matt are the parents of three children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here noted: Florence Mary A., February 7, 1905; Jackson M., October 27, 1910; and Lillian Caesara, April 12, 1915.

**William J. McGrath, M. D.**, has been engaged in the successful practice of his profession at Elkader, the judicial center of Clayton county, for slightly more than twenty years, and through his able and effective ministrations as well as his personal popularity he has gained definite prestige as one of the representative physicians and surgeons of this part of the state. The doctor was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, on the 17th of October, 1871, and is a son of James and Mary (Ryan) McGrath, both natives of the Emerald Isle and representatives of fine old families of Ireland. James McGrath was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents on their immigration to America, and he was reared to manhood in the city of St. Louis, Missouri. As a young man he went to the state of Wisconsin, where he eventually became one of the substantial agriculturists of Lafayette county. There he passed the remainder of his life, and he was about fifty years of age at the time of his death, his widow being now a resident of Darlington, that county. Of the eight children the eldest is Kate, who is the wife of John Egan, their home being in the state of Montana; Margaret is the wife of Albert H. Doyle, of Berkeley, California; James is a resident of the state of Oklahoma; Dr. McGrath, of this review, was the next in order of birth; John is a successful buyer and shipper of live stock at Darlington, Wisconsin; Mary is the wife of Patrick J. Daley, of Warren, Illinois; Jessie is the wife of Joseph Kelly, of Richland Center, Wisconsin; and Ella is the wife of William J. Riley, of Darlington, that state. Dr. William J. McGrath is indebted to the excellent public schools of his native state for his early educational discipline, which was supplemented by a course in a normal school in the state of Indiana. In consonance with his ambitious purpose he was finally matriculated in the celebrated Rush Medical College, in the city of Chicago, and in this institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1895 and with the well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. Through close and appreciative study and effective post-graduate work within the intervening years he has kept in touch with the advances made in medical and surgical science, and he has recourse to the best standard and periodical literature of his profession, besides which he vitalizes his interest in his work and that of his confreres by means of active affiliation with the Clayton County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Within a few months after his graduation in Rush Medical College Dr. McGrath established his residence at Elkader, where he has since continued his earnest work as a phy-

sician and surgeon and where his success has been on parity with his recognized ability and his unequivocal devotion to his acting vocation. He lends his influence in support of those things which tend to advance the civic and material welfare of the community, but he has had neither time nor inclination for political activity or officeholding. On the 12th of January, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. McGrath to Miss Adelia Partridge, of Argyle, Wisconsin, and their only child is a son, Malcolm.

**James McGuire** is a well known and popular representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county, where his parents established their home more than sixty years ago, and while he has wandered far afield from his native county in gaining certain of his experiences as one of the world's workers, he has always looked upon Clayton county as his home and paid to it loyal allegiance. He is one of the substantial and influential citizens of the county, is now living retired in the village of Clayton, and that he has never assumed connubial responsibilities has in no degree militated against his personal popularity in the home county, where his circle of friends is coincident with that of his acquaintances. James McGuire was born in the village of Clayton on the 22d of June, 1857, the third in order of birth in a family of thirteen children, all of whom are living except three. He is a son of James and Margaret (Depew) McGuire, the former of whom was born in Ireland and the latter in the state of Pennsylvania, where their marriage was solemnized. In 1855, with youthful ambition and steadfast purpose, this sterling couple became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa, and after residing for an interval in the little village of Clayton they removed to the embryonic farm which James McGuire, Sr., purchased in Clayton township. He improved one of the productive farms of the county and on his old homestead he continued to reside until his death, in 1883, his widow being still a resident of the county and being one of its venerable and revered pioneer women, her eighty-second birthday anniversary having been celebrated in 1916. Reared under the invigorating discipline of the pioneer farm, James McGuire, Jr., the immediate subject of this review, early learned the lessons and dignity of honest toil, and in the meanwhile he profited duly by the advantages afforded in the schools of the locality. In his youth he also served a virtual apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, and as a competent workman he followed the same at intervals for a number of years. In 1878 Mr. McGuire went to Kansas and entered claim to a homestead of government land in Ness county. He remained on the property until he had perfected his title and later passed three years in Texas, where he was actively identified with the herding of cattle on the great open ranges that then characterized the Lone Star state. In 1884 he returned to his native county and assumed the active control and management of the old homestead farm. There he continued his operations until 1910, when, with his venerable mother, he removed to the village of Clayton, where he has since lived virtually retired. Though he sold the old home farm Mr. McGuire is still to be consistently designated as a landed



JAMES MCGUIRE



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proprietor, for he is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota, and a valuable tract of two hundred and forty acres in the Province of Alberta, Canada. He has ever given his allegiance to the Democratic party and is well fortified in his convictions concerning matters of public import. He served for a full quarter of a century as clerk of Clayton township, six years as clerk of the village of Clayton and five years as secretary of the school board—preferments that indicate alike his ability and the popular estimate placed upon him. Mr. McGuire was one of the organizers of the Clayton Savings Bank and is still a member of the directorate of this well ordered institution. At Garnavillo he is affiliated with Garnavillo Lodge, No. 90, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, in which he has passed various official chairs, and he is affiliated also with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and with Oakleaf Camp, No. 2875, Modern Woodmen of America, in which latter he has served in each of the official chairs. His devoted and venerable mother, to whom he accords the deepest filial solicitude, still presides over their pleasant home in Clayton.

**Hugh McKellar**, late the owner of the fine old homestead farm upon which his father established the family home more than sixty years ago, maintained his residence there from the time he was a lad of five years. Mr. McKellar was born in Tioga county, New York, on the 8th of October, 1848, and was a son of Hugh and Mary (McKuenan) McKellar, both natives of Scotland and representatives of sterling old families of the land of hills and heather. Upon coming to America, about the year 1842, Hugh McKellar, Sr., first located near the city of Albany, New York, and later established his residence in Tioga county, that state, where he remained until 1853, when he came with his family to Iowa and became a pioneer settler of Clayton county. He obtained a tract of land in Section 16, Highland township, where he reclaimed and developed a fine landed estate of two hundred and forty acres. He was a blacksmith by trade, and on his farm he maintained a well equipped blacksmith shop, in which he found ample demand for his services. He was one of the sturdy and upright men who contributed materially to the civic and industrial development and progress of the county, and he remained on his old homestead until his death, which occurred July 4, 1877, his widow having passed to eternal rest on the 22d of May, 1879. They became the parents of six children, concerning whom the following brief data are given: Archibald died in childhood; Peter resides at Elgin, Fayette county; Sarah is deceased; the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth; Maria is the wife of Jerome N. Robbins, of Highland township; Roxie is the widow of John Service and resides at Elgin, Fayette county. He to whom this brief review is dedicated gained his youthful education in the district schools of Highland township, and the stage of his activities during the long intervening years was the old homestead farm on which he was reared from childhood and which now comprises three hundred and thirty acres. Mr. McKellar never wavered in his allegiance to the Republican party and, though he was loyal and liberal in his civic attitude, he was

not imbued with any ambition for the honors or emoluments of public office. He affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, and at the time of his death, June 7, 1916, he was one of the highly esteemed citizens of the county.

**James H. McLaughlin.**—Within the pages of this publication will be found individual mention of a goodly contingent of the native sons of Clayton county who have here found ample field for productive achievement and the winning of success and prestige of unequivocal order. Such an one is the well known citizen of McGregor whose name initiates this paragraph, who has given his earnest co-operation in the furtherance of civic and material enterprises that have worked greatly to the advancement of this picturesque little city, who has been prominent in business life and in the public affairs of the community and whose course has been so ordered as to retain to him the fullest measure of popular confidence and good will. Mr. McLaughlin is a scion of staunch Scotch-Irish stock and is a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county. He was born in Highland township, this county, on the 22d of July, 1857, and is a son of John and Winifred (Hanaghan) McLaughlin, who here established their home more than sixty years ago and who continued as honored citizens of the county until the close of their long and useful lives. John McLaughlin was born in the town of Castlebar, County Mayo, Ireland, where he was reared to adult age and where his early educational advantages were those afforded in the parish school. In his native county he continued his association with agricultural pursuits until he had attained to the age of thirty years, when he manifested his ambition and self-reliance by severing the many gracious ties that bound him to the fair old Emerald Isle and by coming to America, where he felt assured of better opportunities of winning independence and prosperity through his own efforts, as he was entirely relying upon his own resources in making his way to this worthy goal. After passing a few weeks in New York city he determined to cast in his lot with the progressive west, which offered superior attractions to the man of vigor and earnest purpose. He made his way to De Kalb, Illinois, and soon afterward found employment on a railroad that was being pushed forward in construction westward. He was signally fortunate also in having thus made DeKalb his headquarters, for there it was that he met and won as a wife the gracious young woman who was his devoted companion and helpmeet during the remainder of his life. For a period of twelve years Mr. McLaughlin found employment as a teamster, principally in connection with railroad construction, and by his frugality and well ordered saving of his earnings he provided the means by which he made secure advancement toward the mark of substantial independence. He finally purchased a team of horses and with his wife set forth for Clayton county, Iowa. They crossed the Mississippi river at Dubuque and then made their way by easy stages to Elkader. They arrived at the site of the present thriving county seat of Clayton county at a time when virtually the only building in the place was the old-time Davis mill—an historic and



substantial old structure that is still in an excellent state of preservation and that is still operated as a flour mill, the property being owned by Schmidt Brothers, who are representative business men of Elkader. Soon after his arrival in Clayton county, which was then virtually on the frontier, Mr. McLaughlin purchased eighty acres of government land, in what was then known as the Scotch settlement of Highland township. He reclaimed this farm to effective cultivation and there was maintained the family home until 1869, when this industrious and sterling pioneer sold the property to advantage and purchased another farm, of one hundred and twenty acres, in the same township. On this latter homestead, which he made one of the valuable farms of the county, he passed the remainder of his life, his death having occurred March 15, 1887. His cherished and devoted wife passed to the life eternal nine days previously, both having been earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Their marriage was solemnized in 1853, at DeKalb, Illinois, where Mrs. McLaughlin had established her residence upon coming to America, in the early '40s, in company with her uncle and his family, she having been born at Ballinrobe, County Mayo, Ireland, where she was reared and educated. Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin became the parents of five children: John, who was born in 1854, is now residing at Elkader, the judicial center of Clayton county; Mary A., who was born in 1856, is the wife of Thomas Mulligan, of Aberdeen, South Dakota; James H., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Margaret, who was born in 1859, and who passed to eternal rest in 1895, was the wife of William Kelleher; she became the mother of four children, two of whom were reared in the home of her brother James, of this sketch. Of the two children thus reared and educated by Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin, the elder is Stella, who is now the wife of Thomas Grady, of Monona, this county, and the younger, Katherine, is the wife of Joseph Roerig, who is, in 1916, serving as postmaster at Adrian, Minnesota. James H. McLaughlin was reared under the influence of the pioneer farm and early began to aid his father in the work of the same, the while he profited duly by the advantages afforded in the district schools of his native township. At the age of twenty years he left the parental home and initiated his independent career by turning his attention to railroad construction work, in the employ of Flynn & Williams, contractors in connection with the extending of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. He remained with this firm four years, and his sturdiness and competency then gained to him the position of foreman with James Brooks, a contractor in railroad grading. Two years later Mr. McLaughlin resigned this position to accept a similar and more remunerative post with the firm of Foreman & Prockelton, with whom he remained one year. He severed this alliance to avail himself again of a better opportunity, as at that time he entered the employ of the Michel Brewing Company, of La Crosse, Wis., in the responsible and confidential position of auditor. That his efficient services and broad executive ability have not lacked appreciation is vouchsafed by the fact that he has continued his active association with this company during

the long intervening period of twenty-eight years, and his fidelity and close application are significantly shown in the fact that during this entire period he has never missed earning his diurnal salary. In all that makes for loyal and liberal citizenship Mr. McLaughlin has always accounted splendidly for himself, and his earnest co-operation has been given in the furtherance of movements and enterprises projected for the general good of the community, and while he is well fortified in his political convictions and has been an influential figure in the local councils and activities of the Democratic party. He is serving in 1916 as a member of the municipal council of McGregor. He was the leading promoter of the movement that resulted in giving to McGregor, in 1899, the modern and well conducted Zimmerman Hotel, which was erected at a cost of about twenty-five thousand dollars and which is recognized as one of the best hotels in Clayton county. He is affiliated with the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, and both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Catholic church, prominent in the work and support of the parish in their home city, where their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances. On the 25th of October, 1881, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. McLaughlin to Miss Sarah Gilmartin, daughter of John and Mary Gilmartin, of Toledo, Tama county. Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin have had no children, but in their home have been reared two daughters of his sister, as has already been noted in this review.

**George E. Medberry.**—In Section 6, Highland township, is situated the well improved farm of the sterling citizen to whom this review is dedicated, and he is known and honored as one of the substantial and influential citizens of the township in which he has maintained his home for the past twenty years and in which he has held the office of township clerk continuously since 1903. He served six years as constable and has been a valued member of the school board of his district, of which he served as president. All of these preferments indicate alike his ability and the high estimate placed upon him in his home community. Mr. Medberry was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, on the 30th of October, 1862, and is a son of Marion and Sarah (Kilgore) Medberry, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Pennsylvania, both having been of staunch Scottish ancestry and both having been residents of Fayette county, Iowa, at the time of their death. The father was a carpenter by trade and vocation and was for many years a successful contractor and builder. Of the four children, the eldest is John K., who resides at Rock Rapids, Iowa; Frank L. is a resident of Fayette, this state; the subject of this sketch was the next in order of birth; and Charles H. resides in Fayette county. George E. Medberry acquired his youthful education in the public schools of Fayette county, and as a lad of fourteen years he found employment at farm work, his compensation being ten dollars a month. As a youth he passed two years in the state of California, and thereafter he was a resident of Fayette county and engaged principally in farming until 1896, when he came to Clayton county

and rented the old Quigley farm, which comprised one hundred and fifty-six acres and which is an integral part of his present fine farm property of two hundred and sixty acres. His success is indicated in the excellent returns which he has received from his well ordered operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower and by his having accumulated one of the valuable farm properties of Clayton county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and mention has already been made of the various public offices in which he has been called upon to serve in Highland township. His attractive home receives service on rural mail route No. 2 from the village of Elgin. On the 27th of December, 1895, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Medberry to Miss Rosetta Rothlisberger, who was born in Switzerland, and who was summoned to the life eternal on the 16th of April, 1914. She is survived by four children, all of whom remain with their father on the old home farm, namely: Aden J., Rex R., Lena E. and Walter K.

**Edwin Meder** was born at Communia, Clayton county, Iowa, on a farm consisting of eighty acres. When he was ten years old he and his parents moved to Clayton township on a farm which he now owns and successfully operates, and the same comprises two hundred and ten acres of most fertile land of that enduring integrity that is so pronounced a constituent of the soil of this favored section of the Hawkeye state. This farm, or the most of it, has been in the possession of the Meder family since the early pioneer era in the history of Clayton county. Edwin Meder was born on the 9th of March, 1856. He is the only child of Frederick and Albertina (Gade) Meder, who were born and reared in Germany. In 1853, they immigrated to the United States, and became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa. They were married in Garnavillo, Iowa. Here the father gave his attention zealously to the achieving of worthy independence and prosperity through association with the basic industry of agriculture, and in 1866 he purchased the farm now owned by his only son, the immediate subject of this review, this having continued as the abiding place of both him and his wife until the close of their long and upright lives, and the names of both meriting high place on the enduring roll of the sterling pioneers of Clayton county. Experience in connection with the work of the home farm was gained by Edwin Meder in his boyhood and youth, and he acquired his early education in the pioneer schools of a county and state that have always maintained a high standard of literacy. Upon attaining to adult age he began to relieve his father more and more of the work and responsibilities involved in the operations of the farm, of which he eventually assumed the active management and of which he became the owner after the death of his parents. He has kept the old homestead up to the highest standard of productiveness, employs scientific methods in all departments of his farm enterprise and gives special attention to the breeding and feeding of live stock of the best grades. He is known and honored as one of the loyal citizens and progressive farmers and men of affairs of his native county, is a Democrat in his political proclivities, and has served continuously since 1900 in the office



of township assessor, his fine landed estate being situated in Section 11, Clayton township. He has served fourteen years as school director and eighteen years as school secretary, and is now treasurer of his school district, the while he manifests a lively interest in all things pertaining to the civic and material welfare of his home township and county. At Clayton he is affiliated with Oakleaf Camp, No. 2875, Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Catholic church in the same village. In 1882 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Meder to Miss Mary Grouney, who was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, one of the five survivors of the nine children born to James and Ellen (Gilson) Grouney. Her parents were born and reared in Ireland and upon coming to the United States they established their residence in Pennsylvania, where they remained until they came to Clayton county, Iowa, and became pioneer settlers on a farm, both having continued their residence in this county until their death, and Mrs. Meder having been a child at the time of the family removal from the old Keystone state to Iowa. In conclusion is given brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Meder: Estella A. is the wife of Richard F. Meehan, a farmer of this county, and prior to her marriage was a successful teacher; Fannie E. is the wife of Jas. J. Meehan, likewise of this county, and prior to her marriage she also had been a popular and successful teacher in the public schools; May M. is now numbered among the efficient and popular representatives of the pedagogic profession and is a teacher in the schools of her native county; Anna L. is the wife of Elmer Mueller, a farmer of Clayton county, and she likewise made before her marriage a record as a successful teacher; Clement J. is associated in the work of the home farm; Fredr. J., who likewise remains at the parental home, was graduated in the high school at Gattavillo; and Walter J. is, in 1916, a student in the high school at Guttenberg, this county.

**Henry Meder.**—No history of Clayton county can be really consistent with itself if it fails to pay high tribute of honor to the sterling and venerable citizen whose name initiates this paragraph and who was the virtual founder of the now thriving village of Mederville, which was named in his honor. In the pioneer period of Clayton county history Mr. Meder came to the county as a young man who had but recently emigrated from his German fatherland and whose fortification for the success-battle of life was represented in his own integrity of purpose, his energy and his ambition. Such was his ability that he became a leader in industrial and civic affairs in the county and within more than sixty years of residence in the county he has marked the passing days with large and worthy achievement and has contributed much to the civic and material development and progress of the county whose manifold advantages and attractions he is now able to enjoy in the gracious evening of a well spent life. Mr. Meder was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, the ancient home of both his paternal and maternal ancestors, and the date of his nativity was January 20, 1834, so that he has now passed the age of four score years. He is a son of Louis and

Frederica (Sauerbray) Meder, the former of whom passed his entire life in Germany and the latter of whom, after the death of her honored husband, came with her children to America and established her home at Guttenberg, Clayton county, Iowa; she passed the remainder of her life in Valya township. Both she and her husband were earnest members of the German Lutheran church. Of their ten children the first five, Sophia, Frederick, Mary, Hannah and Augusta, are deceased; Caroline is the widow of Ferdinand Albrecht and resides in Cox Creek township, this county; the subject of this review was the next in order of birth; Frederica maintains her home at La Crosse, Wisconsin; Louisa is deceased; and Charles was in Capetown, Africa, at the time of his death. In the schools of his native province Henry Meder acquired his early education, and he was a youth of nineteen years when he came to the United States with his mother and three other of the children. They arrived in the city of Chicago on the 4th of July, 1853, his mother providing the money to defray the cost of his transportation to the new home at Guttenberg, Clayton county. Upon arriving at his destination he forthwith turned his attention to whatever honest work he could obtain, and the harvesting of grain with an old-time cradle represented one of his early experiences in the pioneer community. He finally purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Cox Creek township, and later he gave eighty acres of this property to one of his brothers-in-law. He proved successful as a farmer and finally became associated with two other enterprising citizens in the purchasing of two hundred acres of land in Cox Creek township, this tract including the site of the present village of Mederville. The three far-sighted men erected at Mederville a grist mill, and later Mr. Meder purchased the interests of the other two and associated his sons with him in the operation of the mill. The plant was finally destroyed by fire, but he promptly rebuilt the mill and resumed operations. His courage and self-reliance were shown forth in bold relief at this time, for the loss of his mill had crippled him financially and he was paying also ten per cent interest on an indebtedness of \$13,585. His energy and good management proved equal to the heavy responsibilities thus placed upon him and he in due time paid every dollar of his obligations and was once more on a firm financial footing. A second disaster came to his mill, a cottonwood tree being carried through the mill flume and greatly damaging the machinery, as well as the building itself. This damage likewise failed to check his ambitious purpose, and he has not only been a leader in the material upbuilding and business activities of his home village and county, but has also been influential in the advancing of those things that contribute to the social welfare of the community. To him more than all others is due the development and upbuilding of the village that bears his name, and the history of the county should record that he donated to Mederville four acres of ground for its present cemetery, a half acre of land as a site for the public school building, and about four acres to the railroad company for the freight and passenger station. He still owns a valuable tract of one hundred and sixty acres and he still

takes a lively interest in community affairs. He has served as township trustee and was a member of the board of county supervisors for a period of six years. He has given loyal support to the Republican party and he and his family hold zealously to the faith of the Lutheran church. As a young man Mr. Meder wedded Miss Dorothy Brookman, and the supreme loss and bereavement of his life came when his devoted wife and helpmeet was summoned to eternal rest, her death having occurred June 10, 1904. In conclusion is given brief record concerning their children: Barney was born July 30, 1857, and is now a resident of the state of Oklahoma; Louis was born September 21, 1858, and he is now deceased; Emma, who was born April 2, 1860, is the wife of John Nugent, and they reside in the state of Wisconsin; Henry was born July 30, 1861, and died August 12, 1874; Lena was born February 12, 1863, and resides with her venerable father in the pleasant home at Mederville; Albert, who was born July 13, 1865, is a representative farmer near Mederville; August was born on the 22d of March, 1867, and died on the 22d of the following month; Clara was born March 9, 1869, and is the wife of Herman Dittmer, a prosperous farmer of Cox Creek township; Rosa, who was born July 14, 1871, is the wife of M. M. Marshall, of Elkader; the next child, a daughter, was born in December, 1873, and died the same day; Ida is the widow of John Dinan and maintains her home at Elkader, the county seat; and Charles B., who was born February 13, 1879, resides at home.

**Richard Mentzel** is the owner of one of the well improved farm properties of his native township and is known as one of the progressive agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county. His estate comprises one hundred and forty-six acres and is eligibly situated in Section 7, Cox Creek township, with service on one of the rural mail routes from Elkader, the county seat. Mr. Mentzel was born on the old homestead of his father in Cox Creek township, and the date of his nativity was November 22, 1861. He is a son of Gustav Edward and Elizabeth (Dohrer) Mentzel, both natives of Germany. The father was a young man at the time when he established his home in Clayton county, and he became one of the pioneer farmers of Cox Creek township, where prosperity attended his earnest endeavors during the passing years. He is now living virtually retired in a pleasant home near Osborne, this county, and is one of the venerable and honored pioneer citizens of this section of the Hawkeye state. His cherished and devoted wife passed to the life eternal on the 30th of May, 1915. Of their children the subject of this review is the eldest; Annie is the wife of Christ Schramper, of Osborne; Julius is deceased; Mollie is the wife of Ferdinand Schrader, of Wadena, Fayette county; and Gustav is a prosperous farmer of Cox Creek township. Richard Mentzel received his early education in the pioneer schools of his native township, and from his youth to the present time he has been closely identified with the all-important industries of agriculture and stock-growing. Of this line of enterprise he has continuously been an exponent in his native county, save for a period of two and one-half years devoted to farming in the state of Nebraska.



He has made his present farm a model of thrift and good management, and is a citizen who takes loyal and helpful interest in community affairs, his political affiliation being with the Democratic party. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Broel, likewise was born and reared in Clayton county, and of their five children the eldest two, Carrie and Clarence, remain at the parental home; Florence is the wife of John Schramper, of Volga, this county; Richard is deceased; and Max, the youngest of the number, born December 16, 1907, is a vigorous lad who is attending the district school near his home.

**John H. Meyer.**—In Section 35, Farmersburg township, is situated the fine rural estate of John H. Meyer, who is one of the prominent representatives of agricultural and live-stock industry in Clayton county, and whose prestige along these lines is the more pleasing to note by reason of the fact that the farm which he owns and operates includes the old homestead of his parents and is the place of his birth, which here occurred on the 19th of January, 1879. He is a son of Louis and Elizabeth (Moellering) Meyer, both of whom were born and reared in Germany. Louis Meyer was a young man at the time of his immigration to America, in 1854, in which year he established his residence in Clayton county and became one of the pioneers of Farmersburg township. In 1862 he purchased a tract of eighty acres of land in this township, and this proved the nucleus around which he developed a fine landed estate of two hundred and eighty acres, with incidental advancement to a place as one of the most enterprising and successful farmers of the township. His marriage was solemnized July 5, 1861, and he and his wife are now living retired with their son John H., both having become communicants of the Lutheran church while they were young folk. Of their children, the eldest is Louis W., who is a prosperous farmer in Clayton township; Margaret is deceased; Wilhelmina is the wife of Herman D. Kregel, of Garnavillo township; Mary is deceased; Henry L. is now a resident of Plymouth county, this state; John H., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Elizabeth is the wife of Theodore Meyer, of Garnavillo. The father has been an influential figure in community affairs, has been a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and has served as road superintendent, as well as a director and also as treasurer of the school board of his district. John H. Meyer acquired his early education in the public schools of his native township and from his youth to the present time the old homestead farm has been the stage of his productive activities. He purchased the farm from his father in December, 1911, and is thus the owner of an estate of two hundred and eighty acres, virtually all being available for cultivation and with improvements of exceptionally superior order, including the best type of farm buildings. The attractive home is a substantial and commodious brick house of ten rooms and the farm is recognized as one of the model places of Clayton county, with the best of provisions and facilities for the carrying on of diversified agriculture and the raising of approved grades of live stock. Mr. Meyer has never deviated from the line of close

allegiance to the Democratic party and though he has had no desire for public office he has given his influence and co-operation in the furtherance of those things that conserve the communal well being and he is now serving as treasurer of the school board of the district in which he himself pursued his studies as a boy and youth. He and his wife hold membership in the German Lutheran church and their home receives service on rural mail route No. 2 from the village of St. Olaf. On the 8th of June, 1904, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Meyer to Miss Caroline Meyer, who likewise was born and reared in this county and is a representative of a pioneer family concerning which adequate mention is made on other pages, in the sketch dedicated to her brother, Theodore Meyer. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have two children—Laverne Elizabeth, who was born May 20, 1905, and Louis C., who was born February 26, 1910.

**Theodore L. Meyer** was born November 20, 1875, and the place of his nativity was the finely improved farm which he now owns and operates, in Garnavillo township. He is a son of Carl and Eliza (Peterson) Meyer, who were pioneer settlers in this township, and both of whom were born in Germany, though their marriage was solemnized in America. Carl Meyer came to this country as a young man and soon numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county, where he married Miss Eliza Peterson and where both passed the remainder of their lives, industrious, upright and earnest folk who achieved substantial success through the medium of agricultural enterprise and who commanded the high regard of all who knew them. The devoted wife and mother was summoned to eternal rest on the 10th of July, 1910, and the father passed away March 25, 1913, both having lived consistently with the religious faith which they zealously professed, as communicants of the German Lutheran church. Of their thirteen children all are living except one, and of the family further mention is made in other articles appearing in this publication. Theodore L. Meyer was reared and educated in Garnavillo township, and there he continued to assist his father in the work and general management of the old homestead farm until he had arrived at his legal majority, when he initiated his independent career as a farmer by renting the old homestead, upon which he continued operations under these conditions for several years. In 1911 he purchased the property, comprising two hundred and two and one-half acres, in Section 12, Garnavillo township, and in Section 17 of the same township he is the owner of sixty acres of valuable timber land. He is one of the broad-gauged, vigorous and successful agriculturists and stock-growers of the county, is a Democrat in his political allegiance, is serving as school director, and he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. On the 5th of May, 1909, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Meyer to Miss Eliza M. Meyer, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Louis and Elizabeth (Moellering) Meyer, who are sterling pioneer citizens of this county and both of whom were born in Germany. Louis Meyer came to America in 1854 and became one of the pioneer farmers of Farmersburg township, where he accumulated eventually a large

and valuable landed estate. He was long numbered among the aggressive and representative exponents of farm industry in this section of Iowa and is now living retired on the old home place, both he and his wife being devout communicants of the German Lutheran church. Of their children, Louis E. is a prosperous farmer in Clayton township; Margaret is deceased; Wilhelmina is the wife of Herman D. Kruegel, of Garnavillo township; Mary is deceased; Henry L. is now a resident of Plymouth county, this state; John H. is individually mentioned elsewhere in this volume; and Eliza M., wife of the subject of this sketch, is the youngest of the number. Mr. and Mrs. Theodore L. Meyer are the parents of two children—Myrene E. M., who was born April 22, 1911; and Gerald L. F., who was born June 30, 1913.

**William A. Meyer.**—Northeastern Iowa has had much to gain and nothing to lose through the interposition of the very appreciable German element of citizenship, and the German contingent has been one of marked prominence and influence in this favored section of the Hawkeye State since the early pioneer days. He whose name initiates this paragraph was born in the kingdom of Hanover, Germany, and was about fourteen years of age at the time of the family immigration to America. The date of his nativity was October 20, 1857, and he is a son of Conrad and Hannah (Schroeder) Meyer, who were born and reared in Hanover and who there continued their residence until 1871, when they came to the United States and established their home in Clayton county, Iowa, and later moved to Fayette county, which was the residence of him and his devoted wife until they were summoned from the stage of life's mortal endeavors, sterling folk who had full appreciation of the relative values in the scheme of human life and who marked the passing years with earnest and productive effort, the while they justly commanded the unqualified esteem of those with whom they came in contact. Of their children, the eldest is Louisa, who is the wife of William Meyer, of Postville; Minnie is the wife of Henry Klamp, of Algona, Kossuth county; William A., of this review, was the next in order of birth; and Carl is a prosperous farmer near Postville. He to whom this sketch is dedicated gained his early education in his native land and, as before noted, was about fourteen years old at the time of accompanying his parents to America. He came to Clayton county and obtained employment on a farm near Garnavillo. Thereafter he passed twelve years as an efficient and valued employe on the farm of John Hartwick, of Giard township, and in the meanwhile he practiced the economy born of ambitious purpose and good judgment, with the result that he was fortified in a financial way when he finally purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Giard township. His energy and progressive policies brought to him cumulative success and he has added to his landed estate until he now has three hundred and eighty acres, the same constituting one of the well improved and essentially model farms of Clayton county. He has made excellent improvements on the place, including the erection of a commodious and attractive house and other good buildings of modern type and



facilities, and he is known as one of the wide-awake, energetic and enterprising farmers and stock-growers of this section of the Hawkeye State, besides which he enjoys the popularity that ever comes to the loyal and upright citizen whose achievement has been large and altogether worthy. Though never agitated by office-seeking ambition, Mr. Meyer is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party and always ready to give his co-operation in the furtherance of measures advanced for the general good of the community. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the German Methodist Episcopal church in their home community, and he has given to the same efficient service in the offices of trustee, class-leader and superintendent of the Sunday school. March 24, 1887, stands as the date on which was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Meyer to Miss Matilda Hartwick, daughter of John Hartwick, an honored pioneer of whom specific mention is made on other pages of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer became the parents of five children, of whom the eldest, Otto, died at the age of eleven years. All of the other children remain at the parental home and their names are here entered in the respective order of birth: Gilbert, Clifton, Ewald, and Irvin.

**William C. Meyer.**—It is specially gratifying to note that in Clayton county are to be found many representative citizens who claim the county as the place of their nativity, who are scions of sterling pioneer families and who have here found the best of opportunities for personal achievement and the winning of worthy success in connection with industrial, business and professional activities. Such a citizen is William C. Meyer, who now conducts a substantial and prosperous business in the handling of agricultural implements and machinery in the thriving little city of Garnavillo and who is one of the loyal and public-spirited men of his native county, with such secure hold upon popular confidence and esteem that he has been called upon to serve as a member of the village council and also of the local board of education. Mr. Meyer was born on a farm in Farmersburg township, this county, on the 8th of April, 1860, and is a son of Louis H. and Annie (Werges) Meyer, both natives of Germany. Louis H. Meyer was born and reared in Germany and as a young man, in 1847, he immigrated to the United States and numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa. In Farmersburg township, as now constituted, he obtained a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres, and this he reclaimed and developed into one of the fine farms of the county, the same being eligibly situated in Section 17, and the homestead having continued to be his place of residence for sixty-five years. There he died on his eighty-fifth birthday anniversary, one of the well known and highly honored pioneer citizens of the county, and there his venerable widow still maintains her home, both having become in their youth devout communicants of the Lutheran church, in harmony with whose faith they ordered their lives as the years dropped into the abyss of time. Of their eleven children the first-born was Charlotte, who is deceased, her death having occurred when an infant; Annie is the wife of Henry



W. C. MEYER AND WIFE

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Benjegerdes, of Plymouth, Cerro Gordo county, this State; Minnie is the wife of John Splies, of Monona, Clayton county; William C., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Henry died when about 21 years of age; Mary is the wife of Frederick Zarbrok, of Manly, Worth county, Iowa; Frederick is a resident of Postville, Allamakee county; Louis resides at Manly; Maggie died in childhood; Charley resides on the old homestead; the tenth child, a daughter, died at birth; and Elizabeth is the wife of Frederick Lucke, of Manly, Worth county. William C. Meyer continued to be associated with the work and management of the old homestead farm until he had attained to the age of thirty-seven years, and his early education was gained in the excellent public schools of his native county. At the age noted he took unto himself a wife and initiated his specially successful career as a dealer in agricultural implements and machinery, in which line of enterprise he has been established at Garnavillo since 1897, with a substantial trade that extends throughout the wide area of fine farming country normally tributary to this village. He keeps his stock up to the best standard in all departments and has shown himself a reliable, conscientious and progressive business man, with the result that he has gained a high reputation and a secure place in the confidence and esteem of all who know him. Mr. Meyer gives unequivocal allegiance to the Republican party and has been zealous in the activities of the same in his native county. He is now a valued member of the village council of Garnavillo, besides which he is serving efficiently as a member of the board of education and as president of the board of trustees of the local Lutheran church, of which both he and his wife are zealous communicants. On the 27th of December, 1897, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Meyer to Miss Emma Meyer, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county and who is a daughter of the late D. H. Meyer, further mention of the family being made on other pages of this publication in the sketch dedicated to her brother, William F. Meyer. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have two children, Bessie Annie and Maude Elizabeth, both of whom remain at the parental home.

**William F. Meyer** claims the old Buckeye state as the place of his nativity but was still an infant at the time of the family removal to Iowa, where his parents became pioneer settlers in Clayton county, so that he was here reared to manhood under the conditions and influences of the early period of the county's history, his educational advantages having not only included the facilities of the public schools of the period, but also of Briggs' Academy. He may now be said to be conducting one of the pioneer mercantile establishments of the county, as he is direct successor to the general merchandise business that long received the direct co-operation of his mother and that is one of the leading enterprises in the thriving little city of Garnavillo. Mr. Meyer was born in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 31st of October, 1853, and is a son of Dietrich H. and Margaret (Kregel) Meyer, who immigrated from their old home in Germany when young folk and who first established their home in Ohio, from which state they came to

Clayton county, Iowa, in the earlier '50s and became pioneer settlers at Garnavillo, which was then a mere frontier hamlet. Here they became associated in the conducting of a general store of modest order, and after the death of the husband and father, in 1871, the widowed mother continued the business—that from which has been evolved the substantial and prosperous general merchandise establishment now owned and successfully conducted by the subject of this sketch, who is one of four survivors of a family of twelve children. The devoted mother continued her association with the business until her death, which occurred in 1893, and thus she survived her husband by more than a score of years, both having been zealous communicants of the Lutheran church and having been numbered among the founders of the church of this denomination at Garnavillo. William F. Meyer initiated his independent career by engaging in the hardware business at Garnavillo, in 1873, and with this enterprise he continued his identification until 1881, when he sold the stock and business and purchased one-half interest with his mother in the well-established general merchandise business which he has individually continued since her death. He has maintained for his store a high reputation for effective service and for fair and honorable dealings, so that its trade is drawn from all parts of the prosperous territory normally tributary to Garnavillo. Mr. Meyer was one of the principal organizers of the Garnavillo Savings Bank, of which substantial and popular institution he has been the president from the time of its incorporation. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and as a citizen he has proved himself loyal and public-spirited. He has had little time to give to official service, but was specially alert and efficient during his incumbency of the township offices of clerk and trustee, besides which he served for several years as a member of the board of education. He and his wife are zealous communicants and influential members of St. Paul's Lutheran church at Garnavillo and for several years he served on its board of trustees in the capacity of president. He owns besides his substantial store building one of the attractive residence properties of Garnavillo, and this pleasant home is known for its generous hospitality. In the year 1881 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Meyer to Miss Elizabeth Duttle, who was born in the city of Dubuque, this state, where her parents, the late Jacob and Christina Duttle, were early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have one son, Arthur L., who completed the curriculum of the public schools of Garnavillo and then entered Beloit College, where he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In preparation for his chosen profession he entered the University of Pennsylvania, in the city of Philadelphia, where he continued his technical studies during four years, at the expiration of which he received his degree of Doctor of Medicine. Thereafter he devoted two years to effective and original investigation in part at Harvard university and in part at Oxford university, England. He is now engaged in research at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, having been appointed to the staff of that institution in the year 1915.

**Isaac H. Miles, M. D.**, has gained secure vantage ground as one of the able and representative physicians and surgeons of Clayton county, within whose borders his parents established their home in 1869, and his advancement to his present influential status in his profession and as a broad-minded and progressive citizen stands as the direct result of his own ability and well-ordered endeavors. He is engaged in active general practice at McGregor, and his large and worthy success in his exacting vocation affords the most effective voucher for his ability as well as his inviolable place in popular confidence and esteem. Dr. Miles claims the old Empire state of the Union as the place of his nativity and is a scion of a family whose name was long identified with the history of that commonwealth. He was born at Castile, Wyoming county, New York, on the 26th of July, 1855, and thus was a lad of fourteen years at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, Iowa, in 1869, his rudimentary education having been acquired in his native state and having been effectively supplemented by his taking advantage of the privileges afforded in the public school of Clayton county. The doctor is a son of Daniel D. and Harriet C. (Hoyt) Miles, both of whom were born and reared in the state of New York. They were numbered among the sterling pioneer citizens of Clayton county, Iowa, where the father became one of the substantial farmers and influential citizens of Boardman township, and where both he and his wife continued to maintain their home until their death. They are survived by three sons and one daughter. In the public schools of Clayton county Dr. Miles continued his studies until he had been graduated in the high school at Elkader, and in the meantime he had given effective assistance in the work of the home farm. Dominated by ambitious purpose, he consulted ways and means and finally found it possible to enter upon the work of preparing himself for the profession in which he has since gained marked success and prestige. He went to the city of Chicago and entered the Hahnemann Medical College, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1888 and from which he received his coveted degree of Doctor of Medicine, and later he attended the Chicago Homeopath Medical College, also taking his degree at that institution. For one year thereafter he was engaged in practice at Clarinda, Page county, Iowa, and he then returned to Clayton county and established himself in practice at McGregor, which place has since represented his home and the center of his broadly extended professional activities. He has kept in close touch with the advances made in medical and surgical science and for more than a quarter of a century has controlled a practice that has given him precedence as one of the leading physicians of Clayton county. He holds membership in the Iowa State Medical Society, and at McGregor he is affiliated with the **Knights of Pythias** and with Bezer Lodge, No. 135, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, in which latter he has passed the various official chairs. Liberal and public-spirited in his civic attitude, Dr. Miles takes a loyal and helpful interest in community affairs, and he served several years as a member of the village council of Mc-



Gregor, his political allegiance being given to the Republican party. Well merited temporal prosperity has attended the earnest endeavors of Dr. Miles, and he is the owner of a valuable landed estate of three hundred and twenty acres in Minnesota besides owning his fine residence property and other realty in his home village of McGregor. In the year 1892 was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Miles to Miss Helen E. Williamson, who was born at Elkader, this county, and who is the only deceased member of a family of five children, her father, Henry H. Williamson, having been one of the early settlers of Clayton county. Mrs. Miles was summoned to the life eternal on the 11th of April, 1915, beloved by all who had come within the sphere of her gracious influence. She devoted her life to charitable actions, in an unostentatious way, and her loss was particularly felt by the many recipients of her benevolence. Her mortal remains were laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery at Elkader. Dr. and Mrs. Miles had no children.

William J. Mitchell figures as one of the representative figures in capitalistic and financial enterprise in Clayton county, where he is president of the Luana Savings Bank, one of the substantial and well-ordered institutions of the county, and one whose development and upbuilding have been signally furthered by his wise administrative policies. This bank was incorporated under the laws of the State on the 12th of October, 1908, with a capital stock of ten thousand dollars. The personnel of the original executive corps was as here noted: R. J. Stoehr, president; J. F. Miller, vice-president; W. J. Mitchell, cashier. In addition to the president and vice-president the original directorate included also W. J. Splies, H. L. Knuth, G. F. Lindroth, James Humphrey and Fred Palas. The bank began operations in a room on the first floor of a building twenty-three by thirty-six feet in dimensions, and later the present substantial brick building was erected, the property being owned by the bank. The institution has paid regular eight per cent. dividends to its stockholders, and on the 15th of April, 1916, it rendered the noteworthy dividend of forty-nine per cent. The capital of the institution has been increased to twenty thousand dollars, and the present executive officers are as follows: W. J. Mitchell, president; J. F. Miller, vice-president, and W. J. Splies, cashier. The board of directors includes, in addition to the president and vice-president, the following named representative citizens: James Humphrey, J. P. Lenth, Gustave Pufahl, Fred Palas, and C. H. Burnham. William James Mitchell, known for his loyalty and progressiveness both as a business man and as a citizen, was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, on the 15th of May, 1847, and is a scion of old and honored families of that section of the Keystone State, his parents, Jackson and Catherine (Rush) Mitchell, having likewise been born in Somerset county, where they were reared and educated. In his native county Jackson Mitchell continued his activities as a carpenter and contractor until April, 1853, when he came with his family to Iowa and numbered himself among the early settlers of Allamakee county, where he and his wife passed the residue of their lives and where they were honored pioneer citizens at the time of

their death. Of their children the firstborn was Silas, who is deceased, and William J., of this sketch, was the second in order of birth; Ethan Allen is a resident of Rossville, Allamakee county, as is also Mary, who is the wife of James McClintock; Sarah, deceased; Lucinia, deceased; John H. resides at Waterloo, Blackhawk county; and Charles is a resident of Monona, Clayton county. William J. Mitchell acquired his early education in the pioneer schools of Rossville, Allamakee county, and he was a lad of about six years at the time of the family immigration from Pennsylvania to Iowa. That he made good use of the opportunities thus afforded him is shown by the fact that he became a successful and popular teacher in the village schools of Rossville, where he continued as a representative of the pedagogic profession during three winter terms, the intervening periods having been devoted to work at the carpenter's trade, in which he had acquired proficiency under the able direction of his father and uncle. Thereafter he was for five years associated with his brother-in-law, William Henderson, in the general merchandise business at Rossville, and he then resumed his effective service as a teacher in the public schools of his home county. His success as well as his unequivocal personal popularity was shown when he was elected county superintendent of schools for Allamakee county, an office of which he continued the incumbent six years and in which he gave a most able and satisfactory administration. For three years thereafter he was employed in a banking institution at Waukon, the judicial center of that county, and he then became associated with Benjamin F. Boomer in the organization of the First National Bank of Waukon. He was president of this bank from its inception until the lapse of a period of about six years, when he retired to devote his undivided time and attention to the buying and shipping of live stock, with Waukon as his business headquarters. After having continued successful operations along this line about three years Mr. Mitchell came to Farmersburg, Clayton county, where he organized the Farmersburg Savings Bank. After serving as executive head of this institution for five years he disposed of his interest in the same and removed to Luana, where he effected the organization of the Luana Savings Bank, of which he became cashier, an office which he held until his election to the presidency, in 1916. Mr. Mitchell has not hedged himself in with mere business, but has shown himself distinctively a loyal, progressive and public-spirited citizen. He is well fortified in his opinions concerning economic and governmental affairs and has given staunch allegiance to the cause of the Democratic party. He is now serving as treasurer of the village of Luana, and he is affiliated with the local organization of the Knights of Pythias. On the 26th of November, 1871, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Mitchell to Miss Elizabeth Henderson, who was born in Harrison county, Ohio, on the 24th of March, 1851, and who is a daughter of Andrew and Jane (McDowell) Henderson, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, and both of whom died on their old homestead farm near Rossville, Allamakee county, Iowa, where they established their residence in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have three

children: Catherine Jane is the wife of John C. Everall, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and they have one child, Marjorie Jane. Rollo H. is now a resident of Seattle, Washington, and is the father of two children—William Hampton and Helen Elizabeth. Cecelia Maude is the wife of Walter Bulman and they maintain their home at Chariton, Lucas county, Iowa.

**Frederick W. Moellering** not only owns and occupies the fine old homestead farm on which he was born, in Section 1, Garnavillo township, but through his own energy and ability he has so furthered his success along financial lines as to have enabled him to accumulate one of the splendid landed estates of his native county, where he now owns somewhat more than five hundred acres and where he is known and honored as a wide-awake, enterprising and specially successful exponent of agricultural and live-stock industry and as a liberal and public-spirited citizen. On the farm on which he now resides, Mr. Moellering was born June 27, 1852, and he is a scion of a sterling pioneer family whose name became identified with the civic and industrial life of Clayton county fully seventy years ago. He is a son of John H. and Margaret (Petering) Moellering, both of whom were born in Prussia, whence they came to America in the late '40s and became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa. Here the father eventually purchased the homestead now owned by the subject of this review, and upon this pioneer farm he provided as the family domicile the primitive log house in which Frederick W., of this sketch, was born. Later he provided modern buildings of the most approved type, and he became one of the substantial farmers and honored and influential citizens of Garnavillo township, where he accumulated a fine estate of about two hundred acres and where both he and his wife died when well advanced in years, both having been zealous communicants of the Lutheran church. Of their six children all are living except one. After having profited by the advantages gained in the common schools of the locality and period Frederick W. Moellering continued to assist his father in the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, when he assumed the supervision of its operations. Later he purchased the property, comprising two hundred acres of fine land, and to the same he has since added until he now has a valuable and splendidly improved estate of five hundred acres, all available for cultivation, and also a tract of eighty acres of timber land. He gives special and effective attention to the breeding and raising of shorthorn cattle of the best type and is known as one of the most progressive agriculturists and stock-growers of his native county. He is a Republican in his political allegiance, has served as road supervisor and for several years was a member of the school board of his district. He and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church and their attractive home, a center of generous hospitality, receives service on rural mail route No. 1 from the village of Garnavillo. On the 30th of December, 1886, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Moellering to Miss Eliza Meyer, who was born and reared in this county and whose parents, Henry W. and Minnie Meyer, became pioneer set-





JOHN H. MOELLERING AND WIFE

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tlers of Clayton county within a short time after their immigration from Germany, the father being now one of the venerable pioneer citizens of the county, where he has been a successful farmer, and the devoted mother having passed to the life eternal. Mr. and Mrs. Moellering became the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Sophia M. is the wife of Helmuth Wirkler; Nora M. is deceased; Roland H. remains at the parental home and is associated in the activities of the farm; Urben is deceased; and Lucile and Arthur are the younger members of the home circle.

**J. Fred Mohning**, whose well improved farm is situated in Section 28 and 33, Clayton township, is a scion of one of the well known pioneer families of Clayton county and has here proved his resourcefulness and enterprise as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-raisers of his native county, the while he is fully upholding the prestige of a family name that has been prominently and worthily linked with the annals of civic and industrial development and advancement in this favored section of the Hawkeye State. On the old homestead farm of his parents, in Clayton township, this county, Mr. Mohning was born on the 7th of April, 1868, and he is a son of H. H. and Maria (Pefmeyer) Mohning, who were born and reared in Germany, whence they came to the United States in the '50s. Soon after their arrival in America they established their home on a pioneer farm in Clayton county, Iowa, where their first place of abode was a primitive log house, with clapboard roof and with no chimney save a stovepipe protruding from the roof. The father gave himself energetically to the reclamation of his farm, was successful in his operations as an agriculturist and contributed his quota to the development of the resources of the county. In later years he removed to Remsen, Plymouth county, where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. Of their nine children, seven are now living. He whose name initiates this article passed his boyhood days under the conditions and influences of the pioneer period of Clayton county's history, early began to aid in the work of the home farm and in the meanwhile profited by the advantages afforded in the local schools. Upon attaining to his legal majority he rented the old homestead farm, with the affairs of which he had been associated up to that time, and one year later he purchased a tract of eighty acres adjoining the home place. He is now the owner of the entire landed estate, which comprises one hundred and seventy acres of fertile land, and which constitutes one of the well improved and specially productive farms of the county, the same being most eligibly situated in Sections 28 and 33, Clayton township and on rural mail route No. 3 from the city of McGregor. As a loyal and progressive citizen, Mr. Mohning has shown a lively interest in community affairs, and in 1916 he is serving his third consecutive term in the office of township trustee, a preferment that indicates the high estimation in which he is held in the community that has always represented his home. He is also secretary of the school board of his district, a position of which he has been the efficient incumbent since 1897. He is essentially one of the representative citizens of Clayton township, was one of the



organizers of the Clayton Savings Bank, of which he is a director, and both he and his wife are zealous and valued communicants of St. Paul's Lutheran church at Garnavillo, of which he is a trustee. In the year 1893 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Mohning to Miss Amelia Otting, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of J. F. and Fredericka Otting, both now deceased, her father having been born in Hanover, Germany, and having been one of the sterling pioneers of Clayton county, where he became a substantial agriculturist. Mr. and Mrs. Mohning have four children—Evangeline F. M., Lester F. H., Georgena M., and Foster H. A., and the family is one of prominence and popularity in the social activities of the community.

**Knudt E. Mork** needs no further proof of his distinctive thrift and prosperity than that afforded in the general appearance of his fine farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres, the major part of which is situated in Section 21, Marion township. The spirit of determined enterprise and progressiveness has characterized his entire career and through his well directed endeavors he has become one of the substantial farmers of his native township, the while his course has been such as to retain to him the unqualified confidence and good will of his fellow men. Mr. Mork was born in Marion township on the 1st of January, 1860, and is a scion of a family that was founded in this county more than sixty years ago. His parents, Embreck and Rachel (Olson) Mork, were born in Norway. As a young man the father immigrated to America, in 1854, and he remained in Wisconsin until the following year, when he came to Clayton county and became one of the pioneer farmers of Marion township. Here he reclaimed his land to cultivation and here he continued his industrious activities as a farmer until his death, which occurred in 1880. His wife survived him by a number of years and both were consistent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Halver, the eldest of their children, is now a resident of Clear Lake, this state; Sarah S. is the wife of T. H. Olson, of Marion township; Ole is a prosperous farmer in that township; Peter E. resides at Gunder, Iowa; Thomas is another of the substantial farmers of Marion township; and the subject of this review is the youngest of the number. Knudt E. Mork gained his early education in the pioneer schools of Clayton county and continued his association with the work of the home farm until he was eighteen years of age. He then served an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, and as a skilled carpenter and builder he continued to follow his trade successfully for a term of about fifteen years. He then purchased ninety-three acres of land in his native township, and from this he has developed his present valuable landed estate of two hundred and twenty-five acres, as he continued to make additions to his farm from time to time, in consonance with the increasing prosperity that attended his energetic activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower. He has made the best of permanent improvements on his farm, the buildings being kept in the best of repair and everything about the place giving evidence of careful and effective management. Among the modern improve-

ments is a substantial silo of ninety tons' capacity. Mr. Mork is undeviating in his allegiance to the Republican party, has been liberal and influential in public affairs of a local order, has served with marked efficiency as a memembr of the school board of his district and since 1914 he has been the valued incumbent of the office of treasurer of his native township. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the faith of which they were reared and with which their own children are actively identified. The attractive family home, known for its generous hospitality, receives mail service on rural route No. 5, from the neighboring village of Elgin. On the 15th of February, 1890, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Mork to Miss Betsy Olson, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and of their interesting family of twelve children all remain at the parental home except the eldest two—Rosina, who is the wife of Christ Anderson, of Marion township; and Alma, who is the wife of William Nelson, of Grand Meadow township. The names of the children who remain members of the cheery home circle are here entered in the respective order of birth: Enoch, Sophia, Clara, Abel, Henry, Reuben, Ida, Emma, Ruth and Kenneth.

**Jacob Moser** is a citizen who can claim as the place of his nativity the staunch and fair little republic of Switzerland, though he has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a lad of seven years. He is now one of the prosperous farmers and representative citizens of Cass township, where he is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Sections 17 and 18. Mr. Moser was born in the canton of Sulothurn, Switzerland, on the 24th of April, 1864, and is one of the nine survivors of the twelve children born to Jacob and Mary (Grimm) Moser, who came with their family to America in the year 1871 and forthwith established their home in Clayton county, where the father became one of the substantial farmers of Mallory township, though he continued for many years to find demand for his skilled work at his trade, that of stone mason. He died at the home of his daughter in Delaware county, Iowa, and his wife continued to reside on the old homestead farm until her death. Jacob Moser, Jr., the immediate subject of this review, was reared to manhood in Clayton county and is indebted to its public schools for his early educational training. He continued to be associated with the work of his father's farm until he was eighteen years of age, and for the ensuing nineteen years he carried on independent operations on a farm which he rented. He then purchased his present well improved homestead farm, which he has made one of the model places of Cass township and on which he has not only been successful in his activities as a general agriculturist, but also in the raising of excellent grades of cattle and swine and in the conducting of a specially prosperous dairy department. He is loyal to all civic responsibilities, has served two terms as school director, is a Republican in his political adherency, and is affiliated with the Modern Brotherhood of America. In 1888 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Moser to Miss Katherine Hemann, who was born and reared

in Germany and who came to the United States in 1883, in company with one of her brothers. In conclusion is given brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Moser: Lizzie is the wife of James B. Fowler, of Bremer county, this state; Caroline is the wife of Sebo Olrich, a farmer of Bremer county; Rosa, Edward, Albert, Clara and Juanita remain at the parental home, and four children died in infancy.

**John R. Moser**, one of the vigorous and representative farmers of Mallory township, is here the owner of the fine old homestead farm which figures as the place of his nativity, his birth having here occurred on the 2d of August, 1874. He is a son of Nicholas and Annie Marie (Mullett) Moser, both natives of the fine little republic of Switzerland. Nicholas Moser was reared and educated in his native land and came to the United States when a young man. He passed the first three years in the state of Ohio and then came to Clayton county, Iowa, where he purchased a tract of land in Mallory township and where he developed one of the valuable farms of the county, this old homestead having continued as his place of residence until his death, which occurred on the 26th of January, 1904. The devoted companionship that had existed during the entire period of the married life of this sturdy pioneer and his gentle wife was not long severed, for she passed to eternal rest about one month prior to his death, the date of her demise having been January 4, 1904. Both were devout members of the United Brethren church, and he was a Democrat in his political proclivities. The subject of this sketch is the youngest of the surviving children and concerning the others specific mention is made on other pages, in the review of the career of an older brother, Lewis D. John R. Moser is indebted to the well conducted school of district No. 4, Mallory township, for the effective educational discipline which he received in his boyhood and youth, and in the meanwhile he waxed strong in physical powers also, through the duties that fell to his portion in connection with the work of the home farm. Upon arriving at his legal majority he purchased the old home place of one hundred and eighty-eight and one-half acres, in Section 4, Mallory township, this being only a part of the landed estate that had been accumulated by his honored father. He has made excellent improvements on the farm, including the erection of modern buildings, and has demonstrated most significantly the worthy success that is to be gained in this favored section of the state through well ordered operations in diversified farming and the raising of good grades of live stock, the farm of Mr. Moser showing at all times the best types of work horses, graded cattle and Poland-China swine. Mr. Moser gives his allegiance to the Democratic party, is affiliated with the Osterdock lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his wife is a communicant of the Lutheran church, he himself having been reared in the faith of the United Brethren church. On the 28th of December, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Moser to Miss Elizabeth D. Morarend, who was born and reared in Jefferson township, this county, and who is a daughter of Dietrich and Dorothea (Schroe-



der) Morarend. Mr. and Mrs. Moser became the parents of five children, three daughters and two sons. Millard L., who was the third in order of birth, died in infancy. The surviving children, who remain members of the ideal circle of the parental home, are Florence, Mabel, Elvah, Bert and Vera.

**Lewis D. Moser** is the owner of one of the fine farms of his native county, the same being eligibly situated in Jefferson township and comprising one hundred and eighty-one acres. Mr. Moser has shown marked energy and circumspection in his independent operations as a farmer and his success furnishes the best voucher for his ability as an agriculturist and as a grower of high-grade live stock. In the stock-raising department of his farm enterprise he specialized in the breeding and growing of the best breeds of Durham cattle and Poland-China swine. Lewis Daniel Moser was born in Mallory township, this county, on the 26th of September, 1868, and is a son of Nicholas and Annie (Mollat) Moser, both of whom were born in the fair and noble little republic of Switzerland. Nicholas Moser was reared and educated in his native land and upon coming to America, when a young man, he first established his residence in Ohio. He remained in the old Buckeye state three years and then came to Clayton county, Iowa, where he purchased the land from which he developed one of the fine farms of Mallory township, this old homestead having continued as his place of abode until his death, which occurred January 26, 1904, his cherished and devoted wife having passed to the life eternal on the 31st of the preceding month, so that "in death they were not long divided," after an earthly companionship that had been one of ideal devotion and sympathy. Both were earnest members of the United Brethren church and Mr. Moser, in consonance with his well fortified opinions, gave his support to the cause of the Democratic party. Of the surviving children, the eldest is Henry, who is a farmer of Mallory township; William follows agricultural pursuits in Jefferson township; Frederick continues a representative of agricultural industry in Mallory township; Andrew resides at Millville, this county; Lewis D., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Lydia is the wife of Charles Friedlem, of Mallory township; Emma is the wife of George Hansel, of Manchester, Delaware county; and John is a prosperous farmer in Mallory township. Lewis D. Moser acquired his youthful education in the schools of Mallory township, and he continued to assist in the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, after which he rented the place, to the operation of which he continued to give his attention until he was twenty-six years old, when he rented the farm of which he is now the owner, the property having been purchased by him fourteen years later and he having remained on the place during the entire intervening period. The farm comprises one hundred and eighty-one acres of most fertile land, improved with good buildings, the most of which have been erected by the present owner, and it is one of the valuable farm properties of Mallory township. Mr. Moser is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party but has consented to serve in only

one public office, that of township assessor. He is an appreciative member of the time-honored Masonic fraternity, in which his ancient-craft affiliation is with the Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons at Guttenberg, where he likewise maintains membership in the adjunct organization, the Order of the Eastern Star. He has received various degrees in the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of this great fraternal order, and is in this branch of Masonry affiliated with the consistory in the city of Clinton, this state. He is identified also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. On the 21st of February, 1894, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Moser to Miss Ella Friedlein, who was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 24th of January, 1875, and who received the advantages of the public schools in the village of Osterdock. She is a daughter of Frederick and Harriet (Schrunk) Friedlein, representatives of sterling pioneer families of Clayton county. Frederick Friedlein was born in Schmalz, Germany, on the 7th of August, 1850, and was but two years old when his parents came to the United States and established their home in Clayton county, Iowa, where he was reared and educated and where he became a representative farmer of Jefferson township, his death having there occurred June 3, 1886, and his widow having passed to eternal rest on the 26th of June, 1913, her entire life having been passed in Clayton county, where her parents settled in the pioneer days, soon after their immigration to this country from Germany. Frederick Friedlein and his wife were earnest and consistent communicants of the Lutheran church, and their daughter Ella, wife of the subject of this review, is a member of the Eastern Star at Guttenberg, she being one of their five surviving children. Mr. and Mrs. Moser have six children, all of whom remain members of the attractive and happy home circle, their names being here entered in the respective order of their birth: Irwin, Mildred, Harold, Reuben, Merrill, and Myrna.

**Herman Mueller**, now venerable in years, is living virtually retired, after a long period of close and effective association with business activities, and he may consistently be designated as one of the pioneer merchants of Elkport, where he established his residence in 1873, shortly after the completion of the railroad through this place, and where he has since maintained his home, secure in the high regard of all who know him and specially eligible for representation in this publication. Mr. Mueller was born in Germany, on the 24th of March, 1842, and is a son of Karl and Christena (Maier) Mueller, who passed their entire lives in Germany, where the father long followed the trade of shoemaker. The subject of this sketch is the youngest in a family of five sons and five daughters and was reared and educated in his native land, where he gained a thorough knowledge of the shoemaker's trade, under the effective direction of his father. In 1869, when about twenty-seven years of age, he came to the United States, and he first located in New Jersey, where he found employment at his trade, but before the close of the year 1869 he came to Iowa and established his home in Dubuque. There he continued in the work of his

trade until 1873, when he removed to Clayton county and opened a shoemaking shop at Elkport. He eventually developed a prosperous general boot and shoe business and continued to give to the same his supervision for many years. He gained a comfortable competency and since his retirement from active business he and his wife have lived in peace and comfort in the pleasant home at Elkport, the house having been erected by him in the second year of his residence at Elkport. Mr. Mueller has been a loyal and influential citizen and has done his part in the development and upbuilding of Elkport. He served four years as a member of the board of aldermen, four years as mayor and for an equal period as a member of the board of education. He is a Republican in politics, is affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Brotherhood of America, and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the German Lutheran church. As a young man Mr. Mueller married Miss Jacobina Scharft, who likewise was born and reared in Germany, and of their five children four died in infancy, the one surviving being Herman F., who is a representative business man of Elkport and who is individually mentioned elsewhere in this compilation.

**Herman F. Mueller** has, through his own industry and well directed energies, gained definite success and precedence as one of the representative business men of his native county, and in the thriving village of Elkport he is conducting a substantial and flourishing enterprise as a representative of the jewelry, optical and music business, with a well equipped establishment that receives an appreciative supporting patronage. He was born at Elkport on the 26th of October, 1873, and is a son of Herman Mueller, a sterling pioneer citizen of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this work. Herman F. Mueller attended the public schools of his native village until 1889, when, at the age of sixteen years, he entered Bayless Business College, in which institution he took an effective commercial course. In 1890 he returned to Elkport, where he assisted in the shoe store of his father until the following year, when he again went to Dubuque, where he was employed one year in a shoe factory. He then learned the barber's trade, and to the work of the same he applied himself in Dubuque until 1894, when he went to Elgin, Illinois, the headquarters of the great Elgin watch works, and there, with the financial resources which he gained by continuing his work at the barber trade, he completed a course in the Elgin Horological School, in which he gained a thorough knowledge of the watchmaking and jewelry trade and also of the optical business, which latter he acquired by attending night school. It may well be understood that during this period of eighteen months passed at Elgin the young man had few idle moments, for he was applying himself constantly to study and practical work in perfecting himself as a watchmaker and optician and in the meanwhile was working at the barber trade to aid in defraying his expenses. His ambition has been a dominating characteristic and he is one of those who appreciate the value of hard work and who are always ready to apply themselves indefatigably. Upon



leaving Elgin Mr. Mueller returned to Elkport and initiated an independent business enterprise of somewhat unusual ramifications. He realized that no one department of the business would at the time render adequate financial returns, and thus he combined the barber, the optical and the jewelry business until the enterprise grew to such proportions as to justify his disposing of his barber shop and the concentration of his time and attention in the conducting of his now well established jewelry and optical business. He has since established also a well equipped musical store, in the management of which his wife is associated with him, and in which he carries full lines of pianos, Victrolas, and other musical instruments, as well as sheet music and musical merchandise in general. These brief statements mark him as one of the most progressive business men of Elkport, and his success has been the result of zealous and well directed effort and fair and honorable business policies. He is a Republican in politics. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church in their home village. On the 10th of November, 1896, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Mueller to Miss Ida Brandtman, who was born and reared in this county, and whose parents, Henry and Mary Brandtman, were born in Germany, whence they came to America and established their home in Clayton county many years ago. In her youth Mrs. Mueller became an expert milliner and after several years of married life and after she had become the mother of a fine son, she engaged in the millinery business at Elkport. After devoting herself to the enterprise for ten years her impaired health caused Mr. Mueller to sell all of his business interests, and for the purpose of recuperating his wife's physical energies the family passed about eighteen months in the state of California. Upon their return home he re-engaged in the music and jewelry business. Mrs. Mueller associated with her husband in the music business, to which she has since given much of her time and attention. Mr. and Mrs. Mueller have one son, Ralph, who was born December 8, 1897, and who is preparing himself carefully to assist his father in the jewelry, optical and musical business. At the time of this writing, in 1916, he is attending the Bradley Institute, in the city of Peoria, Illinois, where he is taking courses in the watchmaker's and jeweler's trade and also further preparing himself for service as a scientific optician.

**Donald Munger** is another of the native sons of Clayton county who is contributing effectively to upholding the high standard of agricultural industry within its borders, and his farm, which comprises forty acres, is situated in Boardman township. He is one of the energetic exponents of agriculture in this section of the Hawkeye state, is a scion of an honored pioneer family of Clayton county. Mr. Munger was born in Reed township, this county, on the 7th of March, 1886, and is a son of George W. and Augusta Sophia (Badow) Munger, both folk of fine mentality and much practical ability, though both were deaf and dumb from birth. George W. Munger was born in the state of New York and his wife was born in Germany. He passed the closing period of his life at

Elkader, this county, where he died November 18, 1914, and where his widow still maintains her home. He became one of the prosperous farmers of the county, to which he came with his parents in the early pioneer days. He was a son of Milo E. and Jane M. (Glaiser) Munger, who settled in Reed township in the pioneer period of Clayton county history and who here passed the residue of their lives. George W. was the eldest of their nine children; Frederick is a resident of Rolla, Missouri; Ebenezer, of Delaware county, Iowa; Eugene is deceased; Aurelia is the wife of Jeremiah Cassidy, of Elkader; Mary is the widow of Edward Gifford and she likewise maintains her home at Elkader, this county; Carrie is the wife of George F. White, of Volga, this county; Simeon is a resident of Oelwein, Fayette county; and Milo resides at the county seat of Clayton county. Donald Munger, immediate subject of this review, was the second in a family of three children. His older brother, Charles H., is now a resident of Cresco, Howard county, and the younger brother, Dale W., resides at Manchester, Delaware county. Donald Munger was reared to the sturdy discipline of the farm and continued to attend the public schools of the locality until he had attained to the age of sixteen years. Both of his brothers had in the meanwhile left the parental home and it thus devolved upon him to assume eventually the practical control and supervision of the old homestead farm, to the management of which he has since given his attention, with marked success. He is a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America as a member of the camp at Elkader. His name is still enrolled on the list of eligible young bachelors in his native county.

**Daniel D. Murphy** was born near New Diggings, Lafayette county, Wisconsin, August 22nd, 1862. His parents were John G. and Ellen (McCarthy) Murphy, both natives of Ireland, who came to this country when they were quite young. His boyhood was spent in working on farms in the summer time and attending school in the winter. When seventeen years of age he taught country school one winter, and entered the State Normal School at Platteville, Wisconsin, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1883. He came to Guttenberg, Iowa, in September, 1883, and was for three years superintendent of the public school at that place, during which time the same was developed into a three-year high school. During this time he attended summer schools and also read law. Entered the Law School of the University of Iowa, from which he graduated in 1887. He then returned to Guttenberg and for a few months practiced law there and worked in the Clayton County Bank, which had then just been established at Guttenberg. In 1888 he came to Elkader and has since that time resided and practiced law at Elkader, Iowa. In 1890 he was elected county attorney, and re-elected in 1892, serving four years. He served six years on the Town Council and has been a member of the Board of Education of Elkader, Iowa, for about fifteen years, of which board he has been for some years and is now president. When the State Board of Education, the managing board of our

state institutions of higher learning—to-wit: the State University, the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, the State Teachers' College and the College for the Blind—was created by the Legislature in 1909, Mr. Murphy was appointed a member of the board, and after serving a term of four years was reappointed for a term of six years, and since January 1st, 1914, he has been and is now president of the board. He was the Democratic candidate for Congress in the Fourth District in 1910, being defeated by about 200 votes in a district in which the normal Republican majority is over 5,000. He was married in 1888 to Henrietta Johnsen of Guttenberg, Iowa. Her parents were among the pioneer settlers of Guttenberg and for many years were in the furniture and undertaking business at that place. His family consists of one son, Clarence F. Murphy, who since 1914 has been a member of the firm of D. D. Murphy & Son. Mr. Murphy was one of the organizers of the Elkader State Bank in 1892 and has been during its entire existence its vice-president. He is also connected as a stockholder or director with many of the banks in Clayton county. He is a member of the Catholic Church; also a member of the State and American Bar Associations, and has always taken an active part in the work of his profession. In 1908 he served as president of the Iowa State Bar Association. In addition to professional work he has always been active in public affairs, and especially in educational matters.

**Muschewske Brothers** constitute a firm of editors and publishers who are prominent and representative factors in the newspaper profession in Clayton county, where they own and conduct most progressively the Guttenberg Press, which they have brought to high standard as one of the influential weekly newspapers of this section of their native state and in connection with their newspaper publishing they maintain also a well equipped job office. The two brothers are prominent and valued business men of the fine little city of Guttenberg, and in their native county their circle of friends is coincident with that of their acquaintances. Louis C. Muschewske, the senior member of the firm, was born at Elkader, the judicial center of Clayton county, on the 19th of July, 1881, and Harry J., the junior member of the firm, was there born on the 15th of April, 1887. They are sons of Friedrich Wilhelm and Elisa (Ortman) Muschewske, whose marriage was solemnized at Elkader on the 7th of September, 1879, and of whose four children two are deceased. The father was born at Marien Werder, Prussia, Germany, on the 25th of May, 1839, and the mother was born at Stolpe, near Neustadt, in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, on the 2d of April, 1851, both having been reared and educated in their native places. Friedrich W. Muschewske became a resident of Clayton county, Iowa, in 1873, and after remaining a short time at Elkport he removed to Elkader, where he engaged in the harness business and where he passed the residue of his long, useful and honorable life, his death having occurred on the 21st of May, 1897. This sterling citizen had represented his native land as a valiant soldier in the Franco-Prussian war, in 1870-71, and it was soon after the



close of this historic conflict that he came to America. He was in full sympathy with the government and institutions of the land of his adoption, was a man of superior mentality and broad views, was a Democrat in his political adherency, and both he and his wife early became earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. Mrs. Muschewske became a resident of Clayton county in 1874 and she now maintains her home at Guttenberg, venerable in years and sustained and comforted by the loving devotion of her two sons. The Muschewske brothers both continued to attend the public schools of Elkader until they had completed the curriculum of the high school. On the 20th of June, 1898, Louis C. began at Elkader his novitiate in newspaper work, where he found employment in the office of the Nord Iowa Herold. Later he was associated with other newspapers in the state, and for a number of years thereafter he followed the musical profession, his talent in this line being of high order. On the 12th of May, 1911, he became associated with his brother in the purchasing of the plant and business of the Guttenberg Press, and they have since continued as editors and publishers of this alert and vigorous weekly paper and in the control of the prosperous job-printing business that has been developed under their progressive management. Harry J. Muschewske formed his alliance with the "art preservative of all arts" in April, 1903, when he became connected with the Nord Iowa Herold, with which he continued his alliance at Elkader until he removed to Guttenberg and became his brother's partner in the thriving newspaper enterprise which they have since conducted. The Press is a vital exponent of the best sentiment and action of the community and its policy is distinctively one of loyalty and progressiveness. The two brothers designate themselves as independent Democrats in politics and are essentially loyal and public-spirited citizens. Louis C. is affiliated with Guttenberg Lodge, No. 126, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Harry J. with the local organization of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. At Guttenberg, on the 4th of October, 1911, was solemnized the marriage of Louis C. Muschewske to Miss Minnie K. Soltau, who was born in Guttenberg, this county, on the 21st of December, 1888. No children have been born of this union. At Elkader, on the 14th of September, 1911, Harry J. Muschewske wedded Miss Louise D. Pupke, who likewise is a native of this county, where she was born July 2, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Muschewske have a winsome little daughter, Arleen, who was born May 20, 1912, in Guttenberg.

**Mrs. L. Nagel** is continuing the general merchandise business that was formerly conducted by her late husband at North Buena Vista and is one of the well known and popular business women of Clayton county, as well as a gracious factor in the social life of her home community. She was born at Sand Spring, Delaware county, this state, on the 10th of August, 1871, and is a daughter of E. P. and Minnie Sawyer, both natives of the state of Vermont and members of sterling old families of New England. The father was born March 6, 1843, and became one of the pioneer settlers of Iowa. For a number of years the home was maintained in Delaware

county, but the mother of Mrs. Nagel passed the closing year of her life in California. Mrs. Nagel acquired her early education in the public schools of Iowa and her discipline included a course in the Audubon School in the city of Dubuque. On the 9th of November, 1893, she became the wife of Frank P. Brahm, who was reared and educated in the city of Dubuque and who was a son of John and Theresa Brahm. His death occurred in 1899 and he is survived by two children—Hazel, who is the wife of Ray Minger, of Buena Vista, and Earl, who remains with his widowed mother. On the 8th of October, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of the subject of this review to Charles F. Nagel, who was born in Germany and came to Iowa when six years of age, and who was educated in the schools of North Buena Vista, Clayton county, and those of the city of Dubuque. For a number of years he gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, and at the time of his death he was one of the successful and honored merchants of the village of North Buena Vista, and an earnest member of the Lutheran church. He was summoned to eternal rest on the 5th of March, 1915, and is survived by four children, who lend cheer to the home of their doubly widowed mother and whose names are here indicated in respective order of birth—Blanch, Laura, Elmer and Stella.

**Ole Nelson** is one of the venerable and honored pioneer citizens to whom it is gratifying to give recognition in this history. He is one of the sturdy sons of the far Norseland who came to the United States as a young man and who shortly afterward availed himself of the privilege of giving extraordinary manifestation of his loyalty to the land of his adoption, for within a few months after his arrival in America he went forth as a valiant soldier of the Union in the Civil war. He came to Clayton county, Iowa, in the year that marked the close of the war, and here he has maintained his home during the greater part of the long intervening period—a man of strong mentality, sterling integrity and high civic ideals. He has been one of the world's workers, has traveled extensively both in America and abroad and is now living in gracious retirement on his homestead farm, which, with characteristic generosity, he gave to the worthy young couple with whom he resides and who accord to him true filial affection and care, he having no children of his own and his wife having passed away in 1905. Mr. Nelson was born in Norway, on the 19th of November, 1840, and is a son of Nels and Margot (Evanson) Anderson, his surname being derived from the personal or Christian name of his father, in accord with the ancient custom in Norway. The parents came to America in 1862 and they were residents of Iowa at the time of their death. Ole Nelson was reared and educated in his native land and on the 29th of July, 1861, a few months prior to his twenty-first birthday anniversary, he arrived in the United States. From the national metropolis he forthwith made his way to Wisconsin, where he obtained employment at farm work. On the 19th of the following November, however, he subordinated all else to tender his aid in defense of the Union—an action that shall ever reflect honor upon his name and memory. He enlisted as a private in



OLE NELSON



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Company F, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which he proceeded to the front and with which he served two years, during which he participated in numerous engagements and proved himself a faithful and gallant soldier of the republic. In the battle of Stone River he received a severe gunshot wound in his left leg, and the injury so incapacitated him that he was given an honorable discharge, at Nashville, Tennessee. After recovering from his injury Mr. Nelson went to Jasper county, Illinois, and soon afterward he gave evidence of his unabated loyalty and military ardor by enlisting in Company I, 143rd Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with rank of corporal. With this command he served until the expiration of his one hundred days' term of enlistment, his regiment being commanded by Colonel Smith, and he received his second honorable discharge on the 8th of December, 1864, at Mattoon, Illinois. In later years he has perpetuated the more pleasing memories and associations of his military career by maintaining affiliation with that noble and patriotic organization, the Grand Army of the Republic. In the winter of 1865 Mr. Nelson came to Clayton county, Iowa, and after having here been employed a few months he went to Mower county, Minnesota, where he entered claim to a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He sold the property one year later but continued his residence in Minnesota until 1872, when he returned to Clayton county, where he has since maintained his home and where his activities have been principally in connection with agricultural pursuits and the raising of live stock. He may consistently be said to have been one of the founders of the village of Gunder, where he became the owner of six and one-half acres of land and where he erected the first building in the village. The farm upon which he now resides is eligibly situated in Section 11, Marion township, with mail service on rural route No. 1, from Postville. He made good improvements on the farm and continued in the ownership of the property until he transferred the same, with proper stipulations and legal provisions, to Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Holem, with whom he makes his home and whom he looks upon with the appreciative affection of a father. He married Mrs. Julia Gundelfinger, widow of Alexander Gundelfinger, of Madison, Wisconsin, and she was summoned to eternal rest on the 20th of November, 1905, no children having been born of their union. Mr. Nelson has made four tours abroad since he came to America, and has visited not only the land of his birth but also England and various continental countries of Europe. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and he has served as trustee of Marion township. He is a zealous communicant of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Gunder and a member of the Grand Army post at Elkader, the county seat.

**Hon. Byron W. Newberry.** Prominent in the history of Strawberry Point, of Cass township and of Clayton county as well as in the annals of the state of Iowa, stands Byron W. Newberry. He has been one of the most helpful, progressive and energetic men of his home city, he has well represented Clayton county in legislative halls and he has helped to write upon the statute books of

Iowa many of its best and most effective laws. It is, therefore, altogether fitting that his life history should be included in this volume as one of the representative men of Clayton county and as one who has added luster to its name and fame. He was born at Brownhelm, in the old Buckeye state, on the first of September, 1853, the son of James Newberry and Maria (Westfall) Newberry, both of whom were natives of the state of New York. The father was born in Orange county, New York, May 26th, 1827, and the mother in Onondaga county of the same state, April 14th, 1828. They were imbued with that pioneering instinct which was such a potent factor in the development of the great central West and filled with the courage and energy of youthful ambition they left the Empire state to make their home together and to carve out fortunes for themselves in Ohio. After some length of residence in Ohio they again listened to the call of the West and made Iowa and Clayton county their home. In their new home they soon made impress through their industry and enterprise and their spirit of progressive citizenship, and it was here that their two sons, Byron W. and Charles W., were reared to honored manhood. With that instinct of Americanism which knows that "Knowledge Is Power," they gave to their children not only the lessons of thrift and industry from their own example, but equipped them with the best educational advantages which the state afforded. Thus Byron W. Newberry not only faithfully attended the schools of Clayton county, but after completing their course of study he received a collegiate education at Upper Iowa University, at Fayette, an institution which has ever been a just favorite with the people of Northeastern Iowa on account of its thoroughness and its Christian surroundings. Graduating from this seat of learning with the class of 1875, Mr. Newberry, the next autumn, matriculated in the law department of the State University of Iowa, an institution from which a very large per cent of the successful lawyers of Iowa have graduated. In 1876 he graduated from the University law school, receiving his degree of LL. B. and being admitted as a member of the Iowa bar. He at once began the practice of his chosen profession and in 1887 the brothers, Charles and Byron, entered upon that successful partnership which still continues and which has brought to them not only a competency, but established reputation as among the notable attorneys of the state. With the years of successful practice came added interests, and Mr. Newberry is now not only an attorney but a banker and a farmer on an extensive scale and his name is connected with many interests of his home city and indissolubly linked with all that has made for its progress and upbuilding. Throughout his manhood days Mr. Newberry has been a staunch and earnest supporter of the principles of the Republican party and for many years he has been a prominent factor in its councils, not only in Clayton county, but in the state at large. Mr. Newberry was elected on the Republican ticket as senator for the Thirty-sixth Senatorial district and he served with distinction during the thirtieth, thirty-first and thirty-second sessions of the legislature



of Iowa. During this time he served on many important committees and his name is now attached to legislation which with each passing year gives added proof of its value to the people of the entire state. In the year, 1916, he is again the standard bearer of his party for this important position, and his friends insist that his record and his eminent qualifications will assuredly meet with the endorsement of an election. Mr. Newberry is a man who has never sacrificed his convictions for expediency. His life has been as an open book and no endorsement at the polls could be stronger than that which has long been accorded him by his fellow citizens through their confidence, esteem and real affection. Always an earnest student and a lover of Iowa and all that pertains to it Mr. Newberry has for a number of years been a valued member of the Iowa State Historical Society, and it is a pleasure to note that a large portion of the interesting and carefully prepared history of Cass township written by him has been incorporated in the first volume of this work. Mr. Newberry is also a member of the Iowa State Bar Association and, fraternally, is affiliated with the order of the Knights of Pythias, while his religious allegiance is faithfully and zealously given to the Congregational church. On December 30th, 1905, Mr. Newberry was united in marriage with Miss Eve M. Buckley, a native of Strawberry Point, and the daughter of Franklin R. and Helen M. (Turner) Buckley, long respected citizens of that community. The home of Senator and Mrs. Newberry is one of the centers of the social life of their community and both are known and loved for their kindliness, their steadfastness to high ideals and their broad and genuine interest in all that pertains to the welfare and happiness of their friends, who include all the people of Strawberry Point and vicinity.

**Benjamin Nieland** is the fortunate owner of one of the extensive and finely improved landed estates of his native county, is a member of an honored pioneer family of this favored section of Iowa, and that he takes lively interest in all things pertaining to the social and material welfare and progress of Clayton county is but evidence of his loyal appreciation of its attractions and resources, and an evidence also of his representative status as one of the enterprising and successful farmers of the county. He was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 14th of June, 1866, and he is one of the four children born to Herman and Elizabeth (Roth) Nieland, all of the children still surviving the honored parents, who passed the closing years of their long and worthy lives on their old homestead farm in Jefferson township. The parents were born and reared in Germany and upon coming to the United States they became pioneer settlers of Clayton county. They first established their home in the fine German colony of Guttenberg, but finally removed to the farm, in Jefferson township, where they passed the residue of their lives, prospered in their earnest endeavors and resting secure in the high regard of all who knew them, both having been devout communicants of the Catholic church. The father of this family died, April, 1913, and the mother died about thirty-nine years ago when our subject was eleven years of age. Benjamin

Nieland did not deny himself the discipline that conserved growth of both mind and physical powers during the period of his boyhood and youth, for he profited duly by the advantages of the public schools of Clayton county and in the meanwhile contributed materially to the work of the home farm. With the passing years he became thoroughly familiar with all departments of farm activity, and development brought him substantial poise as a practical agriculturist and stock-grower. He remained at the parental home until 1901, when he wedded Miss Cecelia Burr, who was born and reared in this county, one of the family of fourteen children born to Matthew and Elizabeth (Wellman) Burr, who were born in Germany and who were numbered among the early settlers of Clayton county. Mr. Burr was one of the substantial farmers and honored pioneer citizens of the county at the time of his death and his widow still remains a resident of the county. Within a short time after his marriage Mr. Nieland purchased his present fine homestead farm, which comprises two hundred and forty-one acres in Sections 15 and 22, Farmersburg township, and which is improved with excellent buildings, is maintained with utmost care and circumspection, and which constitutes one of the really model farms of Clayton county. In addition to this home place Mr. Nieland owns also forty acres of timber land in Clayton township. He is a Democrat in politics, is serving in 1916 as school director of his district, and both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. They have three children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here indicated: Norbert J., May 12, 1902; Sylvia Matilda, June 2, 1905; and Adelia Anna, September 29, 1908.

**Bernard Nieland** owns and resides upon the fine old homestead farm, in Jefferson township, that figures as the place of his birth and on which he has made an admirable record of successful achievement along the lines of diversified agriculture, the raising of good grades of live stock and the conducting of a well ordered dairy department as an adjunct of his progressive farm enterprise. On this farmstead he was born November 26, 1863, and he is a son of John G. and Mary (Teders) Nieland, both natives of the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany. Reared and educated in his native land, John G. Nieland was a young man at the time of his immigration to America, about the year 1856, and soon after his arrival in the land of his adoption he came to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county. He purchased wild land in Jefferson township and reclaimed the same into one of the productive farms of the county. He was one of the honored and influential citizens of this township at the time of his death, which occurred in January, 1889, and his widow was summoned to the life eternal on the 26th of December, 1914, both having been earnest communicants of the Catholic church, and his political affiliation having been with the Democratic party. Of the children, the eldest is Gerhardt, who likewise is a prosperous farmer of Jefferson township; Catherine is the wife of Edward Harter, of Guttenberg, this county; Annie is the wife of Anthony Mehnke, of Luxemburg, Dubuque county; the subject of this sketch was the next in order

of birth; Mary is the wife of Matthias Burr, of Guttenberg; and Henry is a substantial farmer of Jefferson township. Bernard Nieland was favored in having in his youth the advantages of the excellent public schools at Guttenberg, and after leaving the home farm he was employed on other farms in the county about two years. For three years thereafter he conducted operations on a rented farm, and he then purchased the old homestead farm of his father, the same comprising two hundred acres, and having since constituted the stage of his energetic and successful operations as an agriculturist and as a stock and dairy farmer. He has manifested no desire for public office, though always ready to do his part in the initiating and developing of enterprises projected for the general good of the community and standing forth as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. Both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Catholic church at Guttenberg, which thriving little city is their postoffice address. On the 23d of November, 1886, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Nieland to Miss Elizabeth Dorweiler, who was born in Jefferson township, this county, and who gained her education in the parochial and public schools of Guttenberg. She is a daughter of Paul and Annie (Roth) Dorweiler, who were born and reared in Germany and who became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, where the father was one of the substantial farmers of Jefferson township at the time of his death, his widow still remaining on the old homestead and both having become communicants of the Catholic church when they were young. Mr. and Mrs. Nieland became the parents of fourteen children, but only five of the number are now living, all of them being still members of the gracious family circle of the parental home, namely: Bernard, Jr., Edward, Clara, Theresa, and Hildegard. The names of the deceased children are here noted: John, Catherine, Lena, Raymond, Elizabeth, Rose, Werner, Paul, and Anna.

**Herman H. Nieland** is consistently to be given individual recognition in this history, for he is not only a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county but is also one of the native sons who has proved a substantial and resourceful representative of agricultural and live-stock enterprise in his native county, his present finely improved farm, in Sections 19 and 24, Jefferson township, comprising one hundred and fifty-eight acres and being a portion of the landed estate accumulated by his father, from whom he received the same by direct inheritance. On the farm he has erected excellent buildings, including a commodious and pleasant residence, and he has made his homestead give forth every evidence of thrift and prosperity, the farm being given to well ordered agriculture of consistently diversified order and to the raising of approved grades of live stock. Mr. Nieland was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 29th of August, 1860, and is a son of Herman and Elizabeth (Roth) Nieland, who continued to reside on their old homestead farm until the close of their long and worthy lives. The father was a native of Hanover, Germany, and was a young man when, in 1856, he immigrated to the United



States and numbered himself among the pioneers of Clayton county. Here, by unremitting application and good judgment, he gained substantial prosperity and developed one of the valuable farms of the county. He was a staunch Democrat and he and his wife were earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Of their four surviving children the subject of this review is the eldest; William is individually mentioned on other pages of this volume; Annie is the wife of Joseph Berns, of National, this county, in which village Benjamin, the youngest of the children, likewise maintains his residence. Herman H. Nieland grew to adult age under the sturdy and invigorating influences of the pioneer farm and in connection with its operations gained the practical experience that splendidly fortified him when he instituted his independent career as a farmer. He continued his association with the work of the home farm until 1896, and thereafter rented a portion of the old homestead for about two years. He then inherited one hundred and fifty-eight acres as his part of the valuable landed estate that had been accumulated by his honored father, and here he has since continued his progressive and successful operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower. He is a Democrat in his political allegiance and is a communicant of the Catholic church, in the faith of which he was reared. He has never married.

**William Nieland.**—One of the fine farms of Jefferson township that receives service on rural mail route No. 1 from the neighboring city of Guttenberg, is that owned and effectively operated by William Nieland, who has proved one of the progressive and resourceful exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in his native township and who is a sterling citizen commanding high popular esteem, the while he is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Clayton county. He was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 27th of February, 1862, and is a son of Herman and Elizabeth (Roth) Nieland, both of whom remained on their old homestead farm in this township until their death. The father was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, and was a young man when he came to America, in 1856, and established his home in Clayton county. Here he was employed principally at farm work for the first two years, and he then purchased a farm of his own. He reclaimed his land to effective cultivation and was long numbered among the successful farmers and loyal and public-spirited citizens of the county, to whose social and material development he contributed his quota. His political support was given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife were zealous communicants of the Catholic church. Of their four surviving children the eldest is Herman, who is a substantial farmer of Jefferson township; the subject of this review was the next in order of birth; Annie is the wife of Joseph Bours, of National, this county; and Benjamin likewise maintains his residence at National. William Nieland marked the period of his boyhood and youth by the diversity implied in attending the district schools and the rendering of assistance in the work of the home farm, and it has been a matter of good judgment, as well as of personal satisfaction and profit,

that he has never severed his active allegiance to the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing, through the medium of which he has gained a generous measure of success. It is specially pleasing to record that his fine farm, which comprises three hundred and thirty acres, is the old home place on which he was born and reared and which came into his possession partly through inheritance and partly through his purchasing of the interests of the other heirs. He has proved specially energetic and progressive in his operations as an agriculturist and has also made a splendid record in the raising of high-grade live stock, including the short-horn type of cattle and approved grades of swine. Never a seeker of public office, he has given his active co-operation in the furtherance of enterprises projected for the general good of the community and is found aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. Both he and his wife are communicants and liberal supporters of the Catholic church at Guttенberg. In October, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Nieland to Miss Mary Berns, who was born and reared in Garnavillo township, this county, and who is a daughter of Peter and Josephine (Schmelzer) Berns, her father being one of the representative farmers of that township. Mr. and Mrs. Nieland have two children—Anthony and Catherine.

**Gerhardt H. W. Niemann.**—More than sixty years ago, as a lad of about five years, Gerhardt Henry William Niemann accompanied his parents on their immigration to America from Germany and virtually his entire life since that time has been passed on his fine homestead farm, in Jefferson township, where his parents established their home soon after their arrival in America. The sterling citizen to whom this sketch is dedicated has long been known as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of Jefferson township, has been influential in community affairs of a public order and has so ordered his course as to make his example well worthy of emulation and as to gain and retain the high regard of those with whom he has come in contact in the varied relations of life. Though he is nearing the psalmist's span of three score years and ten, he is still vigorous of mind and physical powers and finds satisfaction in giving a general supervision to the work and management of his valuable and extensive farm. Mr. Niemann was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, on the 16th of November, 1848, and is a son of Herman and Maria (Enger) Niemann, who were born and reared in Hanover, where they continued their residence until 1853, when they came to America and established their residence on the pioneer farm from which has been developed the fine landed estate now owned and occupied by their son Gerhardt H. W., of this review, he being the elder of their two surviving children, and his sister, Mary, being the wife of Henry Brandt, a well known citizen of Garnavillo. The father reclaimed his land to cultivation and was one of the sturdy and progressive pioneers who did effective service in connection with the civic and industrial development and upbuilding of Clayton county. When well advanced in years he and his wife removed to the village of Garnavillo, where they passed the remainder of their lives in the

repose and prosperity that properly crowned their earnest and industrious labors of preceding years, both having been zealous communicants of the Lutheran church, in which he served a number of years as trustee. Under the conditions and influences of the pioneer farm Gerhard H. W. Niemann was reared to maturity, and in the meanwhile he attended the schools of the locality and laid the foundation for the broad and practical education which he was later to gain under that wise headmaster—experience. He continued his association with the work and management of the home farm until he was thirty years of age, when he purchased eighty acres of the same, to which he later added two hundred and thirty acres, so that he now has a splendid landed estate of three hundred and ten acres, upon which he erected the substantial and modern buildings that now mark the farm, and on which he gives his active attention to properly diversified agriculture and to the raising of horses, cattle and swine of excellent grades. Through his own ability and efforts he has achieved large and worthy prosperity, and the owner of so fine a farm as his is to be considered fortunate indeed. Taking a loyal interest in all things pertaining to the communal welfare, Mr. Niemann served thirteen years as township trustee and several years as a member of the school board. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and in the Lutheran church, of which both he and his wife have long been active and valued communicants he held for a number of years the office of trustee. On the 19th of January, 1883, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Niemann to Miss Augusta Schutte, who was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 8th of January, 1865, and whose parents, Henry and Enga Schutte, there established their home on a pioneer farm upon their immigration to America from Prussia, Germany, in the early '50s, both having here passed the remainder of their lives on the old homestead and both having been lifelong members of the Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Niemann have six children, Alma, Louis H., Edward and Alvina, who remain at the parental home, and the two older children are Mary and William H., the former being the wife of William Hernish, of Bremer county, and the latter being engaged in farming in Butler county.

**William Nodurft** owns and operates one of the fine farms of Cass township and his prestige as one of the representative agriculturists and honored citizens of Clayton county is pleasing to note, especially when it is taken into consideration that he has here maintained his home since he was a youth of nineteen years and is the owner of the farm upon which his parents established their home upon coming to this county, more than half a century ago. Mr. Nodurft was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 27th of November, 1856, and is a son of William and Minnie (Oppermann) Nodurft, who immigrated to America in 1858 and who first established their residence at Platteville, Wisconsin. In or about the year 1876 they came to Clayton county and settled on the farm now owned by the subject of this sketch. Here the death of the devoted wife and mother occurred, and the father thereafter returned to



Wisconsin, where he passed the remainder of his life. Of the eight children all are living except two. William Nodurft acquired his early education in the schools of Wisconsin and was about nineteen years old when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Clayton county. He remained at the parental home until 1882, when was solemnized his marriage to Miss Louise Otdoeffer, who was born in Pennsylvania and who was a child at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, Iowa, in 1865. She is a daughter of Sigmund and Margaret (Scharam) Otdoeffer, who were natives of Germany and who passed the closing years of their lives in Clayton county, where the father was a prosperous farmer for many years prior to his demise. Mrs. Nodurft is one of a family of six children, all of whom still survive the honored parents. After his marriage Mr. Nodurft rented the old homestead farm of his father for a period of fourteen years, at the expiration of which he purchased the property, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of fine land, in Section 7, Cass township, and which is one of the well improved farms of the county, with all of its appurtenances indicating thrift and good management. Mr. Nodurft and his wife continued their residence upon the farm until 1908, since which time they have maintained their home in the village of Strawberry Point, in the full enjoyment of the rewards of former years of earnest endeavor. In addition to the old homestead place Mr. Nodurft owns six acres of timber land in Sperry township and his attractive residence property at Strawberry Point. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Lutheran church in their home village. They became the parents of four children—George A., who has charge of the old home farm; Minnie, who is the wife of Louis Frederick, of this county; Arthur, who died at the age of 5 days, and Frederick H., who remains at the parental home.

Ellis Noggle is now engaged in the general merchandise business in the village of Buena Vista, where he had previously successfully conducted a hotel, and he is a popular citizen of the county in which the major part of his life has thus far been passed, so that he is well entitled to recognition in this history. He was born in Delaware county, Iowa, on the 15th of August, 1877, and is a son of Jacob and Sarah (Dark) Noggle, both natives of Kansas, where their respective parents settled in the early pioneer days. Jacob Noggle was born March 12, 1849, and gained his early education in the pioneer schools of the Sunflower state. His entire active career was one of close identification with the basic industry of agriculture, and he came with his wife to Clayton county within a short time after their marriage. He became one of the prosperous farmers of the county, and here he continued to reside until his death, which occurred December 9, 1903, his widow having been summoned to eternal rest on the 23d of March, 1907. They became the parents of seven children: Milton is a resident of Littleport, this county; Thomas J. now resides in Wisconsin; A. Corey maintains his home at Buena Vista; Ellis, subject of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Joseph; Cassius was killed by lightning,

and Rosina is the wife of John Pollock, of this county. Reared on the home farm, Ellis Noggle gained his early education in the district schools of Clayton county and supplemented this by attending the village schools of Elkport. He finally assumed the management of his father's farm, later followed the same vocation in an independent way, and thereafter he operated a sawmill for several years. In 1907 he engaged in the hotel and retail liquor business at Buena Vista, and with these lines of enterprise he continued his association until the 1st of January, 1916, when he opened his present well equipped and attractively appointed general merchandise store in this village, where he is receiving a substantial and appreciative patronage. He is a Republican in politics, is affiliated with Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Loyal Order of Moose, and attends and gives liberal support to the Methodist church, of which his wife is an active member. On the 16th of February, 1896, Mr. Noggle wedded Miss Rillie Darrow, who was born at Peabody, Marion county, Kansas, on the 17th of November, 1879, a daughter of Sylvester and Louisa (Knox) Darrow. Mr. and Mrs. Noggle have five children—Ada, May, Clifford, Sylvia, Edna and Geraldine.

John Nuehring is one of the sterling and honored citizens who is specially entitled to specific representation in this history, for he is not only one of the extensive landholders and prosperous and influential farmers of the county, which has been his home from the time of his birth, but is also a scion of one of the very early pioneer families of Clayton county, with whose history the name has been identified for more than seventy years. Mr. Nuehring was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 16th of November, 1848, and is a son of William and Mary (Biermann) Nuehring, both natives of the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany. William Nuehring was reared and educated in his native land and was a youth when he severed the home ties and set forth to seek his fortunes in America. He came to this country about the year 1838 and first established his residence in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio. About the year 1843 he came to Clayton county, Iowa, and became one of the pioneer settlers of Jefferson township, where he obtained a tract of wild land and set to himself the task of reclaiming a farm. He proved himself well fortified for the activities and responsibilities of pioneer life, but his life was not spared to enable him to gain the fruition of his earnest labors. He passed to eternal rest about the year 1851, when in the prime of his useful manhood and when his son John, of this review, was a child of about three years. His wife survived him by more than forty years and was summoned to the life eternal about the year 1896, when venerable in age, both having been devout communicants of the Lutheran church. Of their children the first-born was Eliza, who died at the age of 76 years; Mary is the widow of Adam Brown and maintains her home in the city of Columbus, Ohio; William is deceased; John, of this review, was the next in order of birth; Henry is a resident of Guttenburg, this county; and Frederick is deceased. John Nuehring was, as already noted, a mere child at the time of his father's death,

but he was reared to manhood under the sturdy discipline of the pioneer farm, the while he made good use of the educational opportunities afforded in the schools of the village of Guttenberg, a fine German colony having seen to it in the early days that excellent schools were provided for the youth of the community. Mr. Nuehring as a youth continued his active association with the work and management of the old home farm which was the place of his birth, and finally he purchased the property, his present valuable landed estate, which comprises four hundred acres and constitutes one of the model farms of the county. He still gives his active supervision to the operations of his splendidly improved farm, which is devoted to diversified agriculture and to the raising of high-grade live stock, including the Aberdeen type of cattle. Mr. Nuehring has never wavered in his allegiance to the Republican party, has been loyal and public-spirited as a citizen, has served as school director, and both he and his wife have long been zealous communicants of the Lutheran church at Guttenberg, which is their post-office address. In April, 1870, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Nuehring to Miss Annistina Ribbie, who was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 18th of September, 1852, and who was a child when her parents, William and Louisa (Luehring) Ribbie came to Clayton county and established their home in Jefferson township. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Nuehring the first was Amelia, who died when about 18 years of age; Alvina remains at the parental home; Louisa is the wife of Otto Lake, of Guttenberg; William is a substantial farmer of Jefferson township and is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; and Mary died in childhood.

**William Nuehring** is a scion of the third generation of the Nuehring family in Clayton county and as an ambitious and progressive agriculturist and stock-grower he is effectively upholding the civic and industrial prestige of the honored name which he bears and which has been worthily linked with the history of this county since the early pioneer days. Due record concerning the family history is given on other pages of this compilation, in the sketch of the career of his father, John Nuehring, and it is thus unnecessary to repeat the data in the present article. William Nuehring was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 16th of August, 1877, and is a son of John and Annistina (Ribbie) Nuehring, who still reside on their fine landed estate in Jefferson township. William gained his early educational training in the schools of his native township and continued to be associated in the work of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty years, after which he conducted independent farming operations on rented land for eight years. He proved in this connection his versatility and resourcefulness as an exponent of agriculture and live stock industry, and in 1905 he purchased his present admirably improved stock farm, which is eligibly situated in Section 30, Jefferson township, and which comprises two hundred acres of as fine land as is to be found in this favored section of the Hawkeye state. He is giving special attention to the raising of Hereford cattle and approved grades of swine, in connection with his general agricultural



operations, and his success has been of unequivocal order. He is one of the wide-awake and progressive farmers and loyal and popular citizens of his native township and county, is an active member of the Farmers' Shipping Society and a director of the Clayton County Mutual Insurance Company. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, he has served with marked efficiency and acceptability in the office of township trustee, besides which he has accorded equally effective service as a member of the school board of his district. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Guttenberg, from which village their attractive home receives service on rural mail route No. 2. On the 18th of February, 1897, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Nuehring to Miss Mathilda Dittmer, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Gustav and Ricka (Rausch) Dittmer, of Guttenberg. Mr. and Mrs. Nuehring have four children, namely: Verni, Sylvia, Augusta and Mathilda.

**August Obermöller** is another of the native sons of Clayton county who has proved conclusively that through the medium of agricultural and live-stock industry is to be gained substantial and enduring prosperity, and it is through such means that he has won large and worthy success through his own energy, ambition and well-ordered endeavors. He has held to the course of integrity and honor in all of the relations of life, is one of the highly esteemed citizens of his native county and is especially entitled to recognition in this history. He was born on a pioneer farm in Garnavillo township, this county, on the 24th of October, 1859, and the place of his nativity was a humble log house of the true pioneer type. He is one of the two surviving members of a family of three children and is a son of Peter and Augusta (Vedaman) Obermöller, who immigrated to America from their native district of Germany in the year 1856. They settled that year in Clayton county, and the little log house which the father built on his embryonic farm was equipped with clapboard roof, a floor of rough boards and a door with the old-time latch string. On this farm the parents passed the remainder of their lives, industrious, upright and useful citizens who commanded unqualified popular esteem. The pioneer schools of Clayton county provided August Obermöller with his somewhat limited educational advantages in boyhood and youth and he assisted his father in the work of the home farm until he became of age. He then began his independent operations as an agriculturist and stock-raiser on the farm which he now owns and occupies and which has been brought to its present fine status through his energy and good management. With increasing financial resources he made additions to his landed estate, and his well-improved homestead now comprises two hundred acres, in Section 35, Farmersburg township, and 40 acres in Garnavillo township. On the place Mr. Obermöller has erected the best type of farm buildings, including a commodious house that is known for its generous hospitality and good cheer. In addition to this valuable property Mr. Obermöller owns three hundred and twenty acres of good land near Delrapids, South Dakota, and this latter estate is also

well improved. He has been one of the world's noble army of unassuming but effective workers, has been loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities and has not swerved from the course of allegiance to the Republican party, the while both he and his wife have exemplified in their daily lives the faith they profess as earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. In 1886 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Obermöller to Miss Katherine Greimann, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of William and Anna (Hollbruggee) Greimann, who came from Germany in 1852 and who were honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of their death. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Obermöller the first-born was Peter, who is deceased; Anna is the wife of Christ Bierbaum; William continues to be associated in the activities of the home farm; Augusta is the wife of William Neimann; Wilhelmina remains at the parental home; Louisa is deceased; and Mary is the youngest member of the home circle.

**Edwin Olson** is one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the younger generation in his native township and is a representative of one of the sterling Scandinavian families that have played an important part in the development and progress of this prosperous and attractive section of the Hawkeye state. Mr. Olson was born on the home farm of his parents in Marion township, and the date of his nativity was March 8, 1895. He is a son of Ole K. and Isabel (Gulsvig) Olson, who were born in Norway and both of whom passed the closing years of their lives on the well-improved farm in Marion township, where the father established his residence upon coming to this county as a young man. Both were earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and they lived righteous, productive and unassuming lives, secure in the respect and good will of all who knew them. Of their five children the first-born, Cornelius, died in infancy, and to the second son likewise was given the name of Cornelius, he being now a prosperous farmer in Marion township, and Edwin, subject of this review, being the next in order of birth; Melvin is now a resident of Forest Lake, Minnesota, as is also Jetina, the youngest of the children. That Edwin Olson did not neglect the educational advantages that were afforded him in his youth is indicated by the fact that he continued to attend the public schools of his home township until he had attained to the age of eighteen years. He gained in the meanwhile equally valuable discipline through his active and effective association with the work and management of the home farm. In initiating his independent career he rented a farm in his native township, and under such conditions he continued his energetic operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower until he was fortified for the purchasing of his present farm, which he obtained in the year 1915 and which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of fertile and well-improved land, in Section 12, Marion township, with service on rural mail route No. 4 from the village of Elgin. Here Mr. Olson is bending his energies to progressive enterprise as an agriculturist and as a raiser of good grades of live stock, and he is one of the substantial and prosperous young men of his native county,

with high reputation for sturdy integrity of purpose in connection with all the associations and responsibilities of life. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and both he and his wife hold membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church. On the 23d of February, 1915, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Olson to Miss Bertina Gunderson, who was born in Fayette county, this state, and who presides most graciously and effectively over the domestic economies and social activities of their pleasant home.

**Martin A. Olson** is another of the sterling citizens who has found in his native county ample scope for successful achievement in connection with the great basic industry of agriculture, and he is one of the substantial and progressive farmers of Wagner township, with secure standing as one of the loyal and public-spirited citizens of the county in which he was born and reared and in which he stands as a popular representative of an honored pioneer family. Mr. Olson was born in Wagner township, this county, on the 15th of October, 1878, and is a son of Aslak and Gro Olson, both natives of Norway. Aslak Olson was reared to manhood in his native land and upon coming to the United States he numbered himself among the pioneers of Iowa. In the early '60s he settled near Postville, Clayton county, where he continued his activities as a pioneer farmer until about 1870, when he purchased and removed to a farm in Section 34, Wagner township, where he gained large and worthy success as one of the resourceful and energetic farmers of the county and where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in 1895. His widow survived him by a score of years and was a venerable and loved pioneer woman of Clayton county at the time of her death, on the 4th of October, 1915. Of the children of this honored pioneer couple the eldest is Sigre, who is the wife of E. T. Sensegard, of Wagner township; Ole and Nels A. are representative farmers of that township; Lars is a resident of Decorah, Winneshiek county; Albert maintains his home at Forest City, Winnebago county; Martin, of this review, was the next in order of birth; Julia is the wife of T. T. Loftogard, of Marion township, this county; and Oscar is a prosperous farmer in Wagner township. By a former marriage Aslak Olson became the father of three children—Gulik, who is now a resident of North Dakota; and Astria and Sigre, who are deceased. Martin A. Olson found the period of his childhood and youth compassed by the benignant influences and discipline of the home farm, and his early educational advantages were those afforded in the public schools of the locality and period. While still a boy he began to give effective assistance in the work of the home farm, and thus it is but natural that he should have developed into one of the most practical and resourceful of exponents of agricultural industry in his native county. After the death of his honored father he assumed charge of the home farm, which he rented from his widowed mother for one year. He then went to North Dakota and entered claim to a homestead, to the improvement of which he gave his attention for one year. He then returned to Clayton county and again rented the old homestead farm, in connection with which he also



took charge of an additional tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which he had purchased prior to going to North Dakota. His own farm, which is eligibly situated in Section 26, Wagner township, is about one mile distant from St. Olaf, which is his postoffice address, and in 1914 he removed from his father's old homestead to his own farm, upon which he had erected an excellent modern house of two stories, besides having made other improvements of the best order. He devotes his attention successfully to diversified agriculture and stock-growing, and has become known also as somewhat of a specialist in the raising of bees, as a practical and enthusiastic apiarist. On the 4th of September, 1912, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Olson to Miss Mabel Nестevy, who was born in the State of Minnesota, and the three children of this union are: Melvin Arthur, who was born August 17, 1913; Adella Marguerite, who was born October 11, 1914, and Joel Joseph, the baby, who was born April 30, 1916. Both Mr. Olson and his wife are strict members of the International Bible Association.

**Nels A. Olson** is one of the native sons of Clayton county who is here contributing a due quota to the agricultural prestige of the county, and he is one of the progressive and highly esteemed citizens of Wagner township, where he is the owner of one of the well-improved and highly productive farms of this favored section of the Hawkeye State. Further interest attaches to his career by reason of his being a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county and a representative of that fine Scandinavian element of citizenship that has played so important a part in furthering the civic and industrial development of the county. Nels A. Olson was born on the old homestead farm of his father, in Wagner township, this county, and the date of his nativity was March 10, 1872. He is a son of Aslak and Gso (Westeleg) Olson, both of whom were born and reared in Norway, where their marriage was solemnized. In the early '60s Aslak Olson and his wife immigrated from the fair Norseland to the United States and established their home on a pioneer farm near Postville, Clayton county, Iowa, where they remained until about 1870, when they removed to a farm in Section 34, Wagner township, where Mr. Olson brought under effective cultivation a fine homestead of 170 acres. He was one of the energetic, industrious and successful farmers of the county and his sterling character gave to him secure place in popular confidence and good will. He continued to reside on his farm until his death, which occurred in 1895, and his widow passed to the life eternal on the 4th of October, 1915—an earnest and faithful helpmeet who had done well her part in aiding her husband to win independence and prosperity and who had proved a devoted wife and mother. Of the children the eldest is Astri, who is the wife of T. Jacobson, of St. Olaf, this county; Sigre is the wife of E. T. Sensegard, of Wagner township; Ole and Nels A. are both prosperous farmers of Wagner township and the latter is the immediate subject of this sketch; Lars is a resident of Decorah, Winneshiek county; Albert maintains his home at Forest City, Winnebago county; Martin A. is individually men-

tioned on other pages of this work; Julia is the wife of T. T. Laf-togard, of Marion township, Clayton county; and Oscar is a prosperous farmer in Wagner township. By his first marriage the father had three children: Gulik, who is a resident of the State of North Dakota; and Astria and Sigre, who are deceased. Aslak Olson aligned himself as a staunch supporter of the cause of his political party and took a loyal interest in local public affairs, both he and his wife having been earnest members of the Lutheran church. Nels A. Olson was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and continued to be associated with its work and management until about the year 1892; the while he had profited duly by the advantages afforded in the public schools of the locality. After leaving the old homestead on which he was born and reared he purchased his present fine farm of eighty acres, in Section 35, Wagner township, and he has not only brought his land under the best state of productiveness but has also made permanent improvements of exceptional excellence, including the erection of a substantial and modern brick house of two stories. He is known as one of the wide-awake and successful representatives of agricultural industry in his native county, as a liberal and progressive citizen and as one altogether worthy of the unqualified esteem in which he is held in the community that has been his home from the time of his birth. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and both he and his wife hold membership in the International Bible Association. On the 20th of December, 1897, Mr. Olson wedded Miss Mary Olson, who was born in Clayton county on the 18th of April, 1874, and who is a daughter of Gilbert and Laura (Peterson) Olson, both natives of Norway. Gilbert Olson was another of the sterling pioneers and successful farmers of Clayton county, where he continued to reside until his death, his widow now maintaining her home at Elkader, the county seat. Of their children it may be recorded that Ole is a prosperous farmer of Boardman township; Mary, wife of the subject of this review, was the next in order of birth; Peter is a resident of Elkader; Julia is the wife of Ole Olson, a farmer of Wagner township; Louisa is deceased; and Gustav resides at Elkader. Mr. and Mrs. Nels A. Olson became the parents of three children: Alph, who was born May 6, 1899; Millard, deceased; and Ira Rayme, who was born May 7, 1906.

**Thomas J. Olson**, one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county, owns and stages his activities on the old homestead farm, in Section 10, Marion township, that figures as the place of his birth, the date of his nativity having been May 14, 1874. He has inviolable place in the confidence and good will of the people of the community that has ever represented his home, and is now serving as township trustee and as a member of the school board of the district in which he himself gained his early educational discipline. He has been the zealous and efficient incumbent of the position of township trustee since 1912 and as an executive has put forth earnest efforts to further the measures and enterprises that have been projected for the general good of

the community. His political allegiance is with the Republican party and he and his wife are communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church, their attractive and hospitable home receiving service on rural mail route No. 4 from the neighboring village of Elgin. Mr. Olson is a son of John C. and Rachel (Holstenson) Olson, the former of whom was born in Norway and the latter in Clayton county, Iowa, where her parents settled in the early pioneer days. John C. Olson was a young man when he came to America and established his residence in Clayton county. He began his farming operation near McGregor, and about the year 1870 he removed to Marion township and purchased a tract of land in Section 10, where he eventually reclaimed and brought under effective cultivation a fine farm of two hundred acres. Here he continued his residence, a sturdy and honored citizen, until his death, which occurred in 1890, and his venerable widow still remains with her son Thomas J., of this review, on the old homestead. He to whom this sketch is dedicated is the eldest of the eight children; Ole resides at Clermont, Fayette county; Mary is the wife of Elling S. Houg, of Marion township; Tillie is the wife of John H. Olson and their home is in North Dakota; Emma is the wife of Henry E. Rear, of Fayette county; Adolph is a successful farmer in Wagner township, Clayton county; Henry is now a merchant in Hillsboro, North Dakota; and Josephine is the wife of Conrad Reinhardt, of Chandler, North Dakota. The public schools of his native township afforded to Thomas J. Olson his early educational advantages and he continued to assist in the work of the home farm until he was twenty years of age. Thereafter he passed about ten months in North Dakota, and then he resumed his association with the work and management of the homestead farm. In 1897 he purchased this valuable property, which comprises one hundred and ninety-five acres of fertile land, excellently improved with good buildings and maintained under effective cultivation and as the stage of successful stock-raising enterprise. June 24, 1894, recorded the marriage of Mr. Olson to Miss Mary H. Olson, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of the late Hans and Sarah (Knudson) Olson, the former of whom died December 4, 1915, and the latter on the 6th of July, 1906. Of the children the wife of the subject of this review was the second in order of birth; Charles, Ole and John are residents of North Dakota, as is also Emma, who is the wife of Ole Kuppen; Henry is deceased; Louis is a resident of North Dakota and the youngest child, a daughter, died in infancy. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Olson the eldest is Henry, who is associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm; John died in childhood; Selma was born April 15, 1901, and remains at the parental home; Elmer was born May 24, 1903, and is still attending school; Thalmar is deceased; and the three younger members of the happy home circle are: Myrtle, born February 14, 1907; Agnes, born February 4, 1910; and John, born October 10, 1913.

**Henry K. Oppermann**, one of the representative farmers of Cass township, has been a resident of Clayton county since his



boyhood days and is a member of a family that here settled nearly half a century ago. He was born near Darlington, Wisconsin, on the 23d of September, 1859, and is a son of Christian and Minnie (Props) Oppermann, who immigrated from Germany and became pioneer settlers in Wisconsin, where they remained until 1867, when they came to Clayton county, Iowa, and established their home on a pioneer farm in Cass township, where they passed the remainder of their earnest and worthy lives. They became the parents of eight children, of whom five are living, and they were zealous communicants of the Lutheran church, in the faith of whom they carefully reared their children. He to whom this sketch is dedicated was a lad of about eight years at the time of the family removal from Wisconsin to Clayton county, and here he was reared to manhood on the old home farm; the while he profited by the advantages afforded in the common schools of the locality. He remained at the parental home until he had arrived at his legal majority and then began his independent career as a farmer on rented land. He continued his operations under these conditions about eight years and then purchased the fine homestead farm upon which he now resides, the same comprising one hundred and forty acres of fertile land, in Sections 4 and 9, Cass township. Much of the land was reclaimed personally by the present owner and the substantial and attractive farm buildings were erected by him, all things about the attractive rural domain giving evidence of thrift and prosperity. After living on the farm about nine years Mr. Oppermann and his wife removed to the village of Strawberry Point, where he engaged in teaming and where he remained about fourteen years. He then returned to his farm, to the active management of which he has since continued to give his attention. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at Strawberry Point, from which village they have service on rural mail route No. 3. In 1883 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Opperman to Miss Mary Griesinger, who was born in Germany, and who came to America when a girl. Mr. and Mrs. Oppermann became the parents of five children: Anna, Katie, Irwin, Gottlieb and Edgar, and all are deceased except Edgar, who remains at the parental home and is his father's valued associate in the work and management of the farm.

**Otis, Col. George Henry**, was born October 10, 1838, in Keesville, New York, and was the son of Thomas Jefferson Otis. His parents were both natives of that state, although the mother was reared in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and it was there her marriage took place. Thomas Jefferson Otis was a boot and shoe manufacturer at Elmira, New York, and subsequently saw service in the Mexican War. He was affiliated with the Republican party in politics, and was a member of the Methodist church. He located in the State of Iowa with his wife and family in 1856, but afterwards removed to Austin, Minnesota, where he died in 1874, his wife following him in death in 1882 at McGregor, Iowa. Of the four children born to this union, George Henry, the subject of this sketch, is the sole survivor. Edmond R., William and Elizabeth are deceased. George



COL. GEORGE H. OTIS

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H. Otis received his elementary education in the schools of Elmira, New York, Racine, and Mineral Point, Wisconsin. At the age of fourteen years he entered the office of the Mineral Point Tribune as an apprentice in 1852, but nine years later, at the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in the service of his country. His war record is a brave and enviable one. He was mustered in as a private and in recognition of excellent and courageous service received rapid promotion through the ranks of corporal, sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant, and captain of Company I, Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in the famous Iron Brigade. Still higher honors were bestowed upon him when he was made major and promoted lieutenant colonel of his regiment. Still later he was transferred by the war department and received a commission as major of the Eighth United States Reserves. He gave long and honorable service to his country, extending over a time of four years and two months, and participated in all the engagements of the Army of the Potomac, beginning with the first Battle of Bull Run. He was married at Dodgeville, Wisconsin, February 14, 1868, to Marie E. Owens, who died March 31, 1871, leaving no children. On February 19, 1874, he took for his second wife Kate M. Seitz, of McGregor, Iowa, and four children were born to them: Edmund R., who is married to Dora Entwisle, and is a prominent and successful lawyer and real estate dealer, with headquarters at Des Moines and Denver; Irving J., who is a linotype operator in San Francisco, California, and married to Clara L. Curtis; George Stanley, married, and secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Miles City, Montana; and Marian Rebecca, wife of Herbert Buchanan, of Monona, Iowa. Mr. Otis is an aggressive and consistent advocate of the doctrines enunciated by the Republican party, and has served the city of Monona as mayor, was postmaster for nine years and filled minor offices in a thorough and acceptable manner. In religious belief he is a Methodist. He is a member of the Masonic lodge, the Community Club, the Grand Army of the Republic, in the last of which he has served as Commander of Monona Post No. 495.

**Christian H. Overbeck** has been a resident of Clayton county since his boyhood, is a scion of one of the sterling German pioneer families of this section of the Hawkeye State, and he has contributed his share to the civic and material development and progress of the county as a successful farmer, as a merchant and as a loyal and public-spirited citizen. He is now living retired in the village of Luana, where he was formerly engaged in the hardware business, with which he continued to be identified until 1904, when he sold the same to the present proprietor, Rudolph J. Stoehr. Christoph Henry Overbeck was born in the Province of Hanover, Germany, on the 9th of June, 1843, and has been a resident of Clayton county for more than sixty years. He is a son of Adam and Louise (Wagman) Overbeck, both of whom were born and reared in Hanover, where they continued to maintain their home until 1852, when they immigrated to the United States, their son Christoph H. having been at the time a lad of about eight years. The family remained about six months in the State of Indiana and in the spring of 1853 came

to Clayton county, Iowa, and became members of the fine German pioneer colony in and about the present village of Guttenberg. There Adam Overbeck obtained a tract of government land and instituted the development of a farm, the same having comprised forty acres. On this old homestead, which he made one of the productive farms of the county, both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives—folk of prodigious industry and sterling character, and well worthy of the high esteem in which they were held. They were honored pioneer citizens of this county at the time of their death, and both were earnest communicants of the German Lutheran church. Of their children the subject of this sketch is the eldest; Louisa is the wife of Bernhard F. Schroder, of Postville, Allamakee county; and Henry resides at Elgin, Fayette county. Christoph H. Overbeck was reared to the sturdy discipline of the pioneer farms and in the meanwhile did not in the least neglect the advantages afforded him in the schools of the locality. He soon initiated a virtually independent career by finding employment at farm work aside from that of the home place, and at the age of twenty-three years he became associated with his father in the renting of a farm which he later purchased. To the work and management of this farm he continued to devote his attention about 5 years, and after selling the property he purchased a tract of two hundred and seventy acres in Grand Meadow township. This large landed estate he developed into one of the model farms of this section of the State by bringing it under effective cultivation and by making the best of permanent improvements, including the erection of substantial farm buildings. There he won distinctive success in connection with diversified agriculture and the raising of good grades of live stock, and he continued his residence on the farm until 1894, when, with a substantial competency, he retired from the arduous labors and manifold cares that had long been his portion, and established his home at Luana, where he owns an attractive residence and where he was for a number of years engaged in the hardware business, though he has lived retired from all active business since 1904, as previously intimated in this article. His career has been that of a quiet, unassuming, persistent and successful worker, and his character and achievement have been such as to make him fully entitled to the unqualified popular confidence and esteem in which he is held. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he has long been a zealous and earnest communicant of the German Lutheran church. For eleven years he served as treasurer of the church of this denomination at Luana. On the 4th of July, 1874, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Overbeck to Miss Caroline Bierbaum, daughter of Gerhardt and Caroline (Walker) Bierbaum, who were honored pioneers of Clayton county. Mrs. Overbeck passed to the life eternal on the 16th of July, 1899, a devoted wife and mother and an earnest communicant of the German Lutheran church. Of the children of this union the first, Catherine, died in childhood; Caroline remains at the paternal home; Louise is the wife of John Goerges and they reside in South Dakota; August and Anna are deceased; Benjamin

and Margaret are twins, the former being a substantial farmer in Monona township and the latter being the wife of William Loeske, of Denver, Colorado; Eleanor is deceased; Amelia remains at the home of her father; and Emma, Esther and Nora are deceased. On the 24th of December, 1904, Mr. Overbeck contracted a second marriage, when Mrs. Minnie (Springborn) Neverman became his wife, she having an adopted daughter, Bertha. Mrs. Overbeck was born at Garnavillo, this county, on the 3d of June, 1858, and is the eldest of a family of four children, the second of whom was John, who died young; Elizabeth is the wife of Fred Lempke, of Allamakee county; and Frederica is deceased. John and Elizabeth (Saaso) Springborn, the parents of Mrs. Overbeck, were born in Mecklenburg, Germany, and came to America about the year 1856. They became pioneer settlers near Farmersburg, Clayton county, where Mr. Springborn developed a good farm, to the operations of which he continued to give his attention until a short time before his death, his wife likewise being deceased, and both having been communicants of the German Lutheran church.

**Arthur J. Palas** has gained secure vantage-ground as one of the able and representative members of the bar of his native country, and at its judicial center, the city of Elkader, he is engaged in the successful practice of his profession. He is a scion of one of the old, honored and influential families of Clayton county, being one of the twelve children born to John and Caroline (Voss) Palas, both of whom are now deceased, the father having been one of the progressive and broad-minded citizens who contributed much to the civic and industrial development and advancement of this country, where he owned at the time of his death one of the large and valuable landed estates of Farmersburg township. John Palas was the son of John and Eliza (Wiegman) Palas, and was born in Germany, October 14, 1831. He came to the United States in 1855, settling in Clayton County and having upon his arrival but \$25 with which to start his battle for fortune in his new home. With characteristic German thrift and energy, he at once began his career as a farmer, laying the foundations for the fortune which was later his. In 1858, he was married to Caroline, a daughter of Frederick Prust, a native of Germany. Three children were born to them—John, in 1859; Mary, in 1861, and William, in 1864. His wife died February 6, 1864, and in June, 1864, Mr. Palas was married to Carolina, a daughter of George and Mary (Plotz) Voss, also a native of Germany. The fruits of this union were ten children—Bertha, born July 25, 1865; Carolina, deceased, born July 1, 1866; Ida, born July 17, 1868; Anna, deceased, born Feb. 14, 1870; Henry, born November 24, 1871; Fritz, born July 17, 1873; Louis, born July 25, 1875; Louisa, born June 19, 1877; Herman, born July 25, 1879, and Arthur, the subject of this sketch, born May 19, 1891. John Palas was highly successful as a farmer and was highly esteemed as a citizen. He and his family were reared in the Lutheran faith, and Mr. Palas gave his political allegiance to the Republican party. At the time of his death he was the owner of a farm of 710 acres in Farmersburg township.



Arthur J. Palas was born on the old homestead farm, in Farmersburg township, and the date of his nativity was May 19, 1881. He received his higher academic or literary education in Drake University, from which he received the baccalaureate degree, and within a comparatively short time after leaving this institution, in the city of Des Moines, he went to Texas. In the Lone Star state he availed himself of the excellent advantages of the law department of the University of Texas, at Austin, in which he completed the prescribed curriculum and was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Soon after his graduation, with incidental admission to the Texas bar, Mr. Palas returned to Iowa and engaged in the practice of his profession in the city of Des Moines, where he remained two years. He then returned to his native county, in 1911, and he has since been established in active general practice at Elkader, where his ability has been distinctively shown forth both in his activities as a trial lawyer and as a well fortified counselor. He has developed a substantial and representative law business and is one of the prominent and popular members of the Clayton county bar. That he has not been denied the fullest measure of popular confidence and esteem is indicated by his present incumbency of the office of county attorney and as a public prosecutor he has made an excellent record that has added materially to his professional reputation. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife hold membership in the German Evangelical church. Mr. Palas married Miss Anna Rehmann, who was born at Osage, Mitchell county, this state, a daughter of John W. and Anna (Gundlach) Rehmann, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Fayette county, Iowa, where their marriage was solemnized. Mr. Rehmann was a musician of fine talent and was a representative teacher of music in the city of Des Moines at the time of his death, his widow being still a resident of that city. Of their children, the eldest is Ada, whose husband, Reinhold Weissinger, is now a soldier in the German army and taking part in the great European war; Mrs. Palas was the next in order of birth; Elsa is the wife of Arthur Neumann, a successful contractor and builder in the city of Des Moines; John is engaged in the furniture business at Des Moines; and Theodore is a student in the department of forestry at the Iowa State Agricultural College, at Ames.

**Henry Palas** is to be designated with all consistency as one of the representative farmers and popular and influential citizens of his native country and township, and is the owner of a well improved landed estate of two hundred and eighteen acres, eligibly situated in Monona township and devoted to well ordered operation along the lines of diversified agriculture and the raising of high-grade live-stock. The major part of this fine farm was purchased by Mr. Palas in 1896, when he was a young man of twenty-five years, and to the original tract of one hundred and ninety-eight acres he added by the subsequent purchase of a contiguous tract of twenty acres. He has been specially successful in the raising of Angus cattle, of which he keeps an average of about fifty head, and

in the raising of good grades of swine, of which he has about one hundred head at the time of this writing, in the summer of 1916. Mr. Palas is a stockholder of the Luana Savings Bank, in the Farmers' Co-operative Stock Company and the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Co. at Luana, and also in the Town Hall Association of Luana. He is unfaltering in his allegiance to the Democratic party, is well fortified in his opinions concerning matters of public import, is serving as president of the school board of his district and is giving characteristically effective administration in the office of township trustee, both he and his wife being communicants and liberal supporters of the German Lutheran church at Luana, from which village their attractive farm home receives service on rural mail route No. 1. Of the parents of Mr. Palas—John and Caroline (Voss) Palas—honored pioneers of Clayton county, adequate mention is made on other pages of this work, in the sketch dedicated to their son, Arthur Palas. Henry Palas, the immediate subject of this review, was born in Farmersburg township, on the 21st of November, 1871, and after having profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools of the county he continued to be associated in the work and management of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-five years, when, as previously noted, he purchased his present farm, to the successful operation of which he has since given his close attention and upon which he has made many high-grade improvements, so that the place is one of the model rural homesteads of Clayton county. On the 25th of February, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Palas to Miss Emma Buckmann, who was born in Farmersburg township, on the 23d of October, 1876, a daughter of John and Frederica (Otting) Buckmann, both natives of Germany. John Buckmann was a child of three years at the time of his parents' immigration to America, and after residing for a time in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, the family came to Clayton county and settled in Read township. Mr. Buckmann and his wife still reside on their old homestead farm, in Farmersburg township, where their daughter Emma, Mrs. Palas, was reared to adult age, her educational advantages having included those afforded in the village schools at National. Mr. and Mrs. Palas became the parents of eight children, all of whom remain at the parental home save Lloyd, who was the fourth in order of birth and who died at the age of five years. The name of the children who remain members of the ideal home circle are here noted in the respective order of birth: Arthur, Herbert, Ella, Leroy, Henry, Helen and Margaret.

**Louis J. Palas** was born on the 25th of July, 1875, and the place of his nativity was the fine farmstead on which he now resides, in Sections 29 and 30, Farmersburg township, where he is the owner of a splendidly improved and well ordered landed estate of two hundred and forty acres, besides which he holds in his possession a valuable tract of thirty acres of timber land, in Section 24, of the same township. This fine old homestead, known as the Stone Wall Farm, has been the stage of his vigorous and progressive operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower, and in these important

industrial lines he has added to the prestige which his father had long enjoyed in the same field of enterprise. He gives special attention to the raising of Red Polled cattle and Berkshire swine, and has achieved not only marked success but also more than local reputation in this department of his farm operations. Mr. Palas is emphatically one of the liberal and progressive citizens of his native county, where he is a popular representative of an honored pioneer family, and his prominence and influence in connection with civic and business affairs are indicated measureably by the fact that he is a director of the Clayton County Telephone Company, the Garnavillo Insurance Association, and the Clayton County Live Stock Association, besides which he is treasurer of the Farmersburg Creamery Company and the St. Olaf Creamery Company, of which latter he was formerly president. He is serving as a member of the board of trustees of Farmersburg township, is a stalwart in the local camp of the Democratic party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Farmersburg. Their home is an attractive modern residence with the most approved appointments and facilities, including an individual electric light system. The beautiful home is the acme of comfort and pleasing surroundings, and is further known as a center of hospitality. M. Palas was reared to manhood on the fine farm of which he is now the owner and is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early educational training. Soon after attaining to his legal majority he purchased the old homestead farm, to the supervision and improvement of which he has since given his attention with all of zeal and enterprise, so that he stands forth as one of the essentially representative exponents of agricultural and live-stock industry in Clayton county. He is a son of John and Caroline (Foss) Palas, both natives of Germany. Upon coming to America, in 1851, the parents became pioneers of Clayton county, and later they came into possession of the farm now owned by the subject of this sketch, the father having reclaimed the same from the primitive wilds and having become one of the substantial, well-known and highly-honored citizens of Farmersburg township. John Palas passed forward to the life eternal in the year 1903, and his widow was summoned to eternal rest in 1910, both having been devoted communicants of the Lutheran church. Of their fourteen children all are living except two. On the 26th of February, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Louis J. Palas to Miss Mary Lenth, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Carl and Dorothea (Schmalfeld) Lenth, both natives of Germany and both numbered among the honored pioneers of Clayton county, where the father continued his association with agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in December, 1915. The widowed mother still resides on the old homestead and of the family of twelve children seven survive the honored father. The names and respective dates of birth of the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Palas are here indicated: Luther, May 22, 1904; Harley J., January 29, 1906; Iva C., April 22, 1908; and Sylvan L., August 10, 1910.



**John L. Palmer** has not been compelled to go outside the limits of his native township to find opportunity for the achieving of definite and worthy success through association with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing, and he is essentially one of the enterprising and substantial farmers of Mallory township. Mr. Palmer is descended, in both paternal and maternal lines, from families that were founded in America in the colonial period of our national history, and his father was born in the State of New York, his mother having been a native of Vermont. Mr. Palmer was born in the township that is now his home, and it is pleasing to note that the place of his birth, which occurred July 12, 1860, was the homestead farm which he now owns and occupies. He is a son of Henry and Clarissa (Penhollow) Palmer, and his father came to the west about the year 1841. Henry Palmer became one of the early settlers of Clayton county, where he obtained one hundred and sixty acres of government land, from which he reclaimed one of the fine farms of Mallory township. Here he remained, a sterling and honored citizen, until the time of his death, which occurred in 1872, and his wife survived him by nearly two score of years, she having been summoned to eternal rest in 1910, when venerable in years. She was a devoted member of the United Brethren church, as was also her husband, and the latter gave his political allegiance to the Democratic party. Of the children the first-born were twins, Frank and Francis, the former being deceased and the latter being now a resident of Nebraska; Eugene is deceased; Charles is a resident of Dunn county, Wisconsin, and Richard of Spring Valley, that state; Whitman maintains his home at Blaine, Washington; Burdette is a substantial farmer in Mallory township; Edna now resides in the city of Duluth, Minnesota; Lucy is the wife of Lavine White, of Elk township, Clayton county; Emma resides at Duluth; and the subject of this sketch is the youngest of the number. John L. Palmer acquired his earlier educational training in the district school near his birthplace and supplemented this by attending the village schools at Elkport. After leaving school he continued his association with the work of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of 22 years, when he went to Knapp, Wisconsin, in which state he remained nine years, devoting his attention to farming during the greater part of this interval. He then returned to his native county and purchased eighty acres of his father's old home farm, upon which he has made excellent improvements, including the erection of good buildings, and upon which he is giving his attention with marked success to the raising of general lines of agricultural products and the breeding and growing of high-grade live stock, including Durham cattle and Jersey Red swine. He is at all times ready to do his part in supporting measures and enterprises advanced for the general good of the community, is a Democrat in his political proclivities and has served with marked efficiency as school director of his district, though he has had naught of desire for political preferment. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and his wife is a member of the United Brethren church. September 10, 1882, stands as the date recording the marriage of Mr. Palmer

to Miss Catherine Mallory, who was born in Delaware county, this state, on the 11th of September, 1863, a daughter of Augustus H. and Rose (Knee) Mallory, concerning whom more specific mention is made on other pages of this work, in the sketch dedicated to their son Horace A. Mrs. Palmer has been a resident of Mallory township since early childhood and received her education in the public schools of this part of Clayton county. To Mr. and Mrs. Palmer have been born eight children, concerning whom brief record is given in conclusion of this review: Harry, who was born September 3, 1883, is now a resident of Aberdeen, Washington; Ralph M. who now maintains his home at Duluth, Minnesota, was born November 13, 1885; Francis, who was born December 27, 1888, died at the age of five years; Ray resides at Dayton, Iowa, and was born February 4, 1893. The other four children remain at the parental home and their names and respective dates of birth are here indicated: Augustus, April 14, 1895; Edna B., December 15, 1897; Max, March 18, 1901; and Howard, March 5, 1907.

**Dr. H. S. Patterson**, a prominent physician of Clayton, Iowa, was born June 5, 1851, and is a son of Wesley and Lucy Ann (Shuman) Patterson. His father is a native of Ohio, and his mother was born in Pennsylvania, but soon after their marriage they came to Iowa, locating in Clayton county, on a farm in 1850, remaining until 1891. In that year they went to North Dakota, where Mr. Patterson began a banking business, that proved to be a most prosperous undertaking, in which he accumulated great wealth. Mrs. Patterson died June 7, 1915. To this marriage were born six children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest, followed by Daniel of New Rockford, North Dakota; Joseph, who is a bank president of Wahpeton, North Dakota; Wesley, Jr., of Corry, Ohio; Jennie, wife of W. L. Carter of Tellman, Florida; and Perry W. of North Dakota. Dr. Patterson received his education in the public schools and afterwards went to Hahnemann College, Chicago, for the study of medicine. After receiving his degree from that institution in 1888, he went to Toledo, where he engaged in the practice of his profession for two years, at the expiration of which time he removed to Grundy Center, and later to Waukon, Iowa, remaining in each place for a period of about one year, finally locating in Clayton county, Iowa, in 1892, where he is still practicing. On December 19, 1872, he was united in marriage to Sarah E. Shelhamer, daughter of Jesse B. and Emeline (Pierce) Shelhamer, who were natives of Pennsylvania and New York respectively, both of whom are now deceased. They were the parents of four children: the first two boys dying at birth; Emaline, wife of Dr. Patterson, and Rosalia, deceased. Dr. Patterson and his wife had two daughters, Alice and Susie, both of whom were taken from them by death. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and is affiliated with the Republican party, at one time holding the office of township clerk under its patronage.

**Ernest M. Penhollow** is one of the native sons of Clayton county who can claim descent from a long line of sterling New England ancestors, and on the paternal side he is a scion of a family that was

founded in America in the colonial era of our national history. He is the owner of a well improved farm of eighty acres, in Mallory township, and the same was the place of his birth, even as it is a part of the original homestead that was obtained by his honored father from the government in the early pioneer days. On this old homestead Ernest M. Penhollow was born on the 21st of April, 1863, and he is a son of Richard and Mercy (Bates) Penhollow, the former of whom was born at New London, Connecticut, and the latter in Chautauqua county, New York. Richard Penhollow was reared and educated in his native state and as a young man, in the period prior to 1850, he came to Clayton county, Iowa, and became one of the pioneer settlers of Mallory township, where he obtained a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land and where he developed the fine farm of which that owned by his son Ernest M. is an integral part. Richard Penhollow and his wife passed the remainder of their lives in this county, honored pioneer citizens who had the fullest measure of popular esteem and who contributed their quota to the civic and material development and progress of the county. Both were consistent members of the United Brethren church and in politics Mr. Penhollow gave unfaltering support to the principles and policies of the Republican party. Of the children, the first two were George W. and Emily, both of whom died young; Helen is the wife of Jesse Holtman, of Lima, this state; Malvina is deceased; Roswell B. resides at Norfolk, Nebraska; Henry is deceased; Ansel maintains his home at Millville, this county; Jason H. is deceased; William H. is a resident of Arlington, Fayette county; Miranda and Edward L. are deceased; Dora is the wife of Frederick Chittenden, of Fayette; and the subject of this review is the youngest of the number. Ernest M. Penhollow has from his boyhood been associated with the work of the farm of which he is now the owner, and his early educational advantages were those afforded in the public schools of his native township. At the age of twenty-six years he purchased eighty acres of the old home farm, and upon the same he has erected substantial buildings of modern type, besides making other permanent improvements of excellent order. In connection with judicious agriculture of diversified character, he is a successful grower of graded Durham cattle and Poland-China swine, and he is known as one of the progressive farmers and loyal and public-spirited citizens of this section of his native county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, he is serving in 1916 as township trustee, and in the village of Osterdock he is affiliated with the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. In March, 1890, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Penhollow to Miss Sophrona McSperrin, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county, a daughter of William and Heneretta (Walters) McSperrin, of Elk township. Mr. and Mrs. Penhollow have but one child, Harry, who remains at the parental home.

**Lee Perkins** has been numbered among the vigorous and representative business men of the village of Volga since the autumn



of 1915, and has here developed a prosperous enterprise in the conducting of a blacksmith and general repair shop and in the handling of a full line of the standard grades of farm implements. He gives special attention to the repairing of automobiles and is known and valued as one of the energetic and progressive members of the local business community. Mr. Perkins was born in Fayette county, this state, on the 3d of June, 1859, and is a son of Calvin and Adelia (Scott) Perkins, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter in Indiana, in which latter state their marriage was solemnized. In 1846, within a few years after their marriage, Calvin Perkins and his wife came to Iowa and courageously took upon themselves the responsibilities of pioneers. The father obtained a tract of government land in Fayette county, erected thereon a log cabin of the true pioneer type, and then gave his energies to the reclaiming and developing of a productive farm. He became one of the substantial exponents of agricultural industry in Fayette county and he and his devoted wife were sterling pioneer citizens of that county at the time of their death. They became the parents of fourteen children, of whom eight are now living. Reared and educated in his native county, Lee Perkins there contributed in his boyhood and youth a very effective service in connection with the work and management of the home farm, and when he was twenty years of age his father there gave to him a farm and he initiated independent operations as an enterprising agriculturist and stock-raiser. He remained on his well improved farm until 1904, when he removed to the village of Arlington, Fayette county, where for the ensuing six years he owned and operated a saw mill. He then returned to his farm, to the management of which he continued to give his attention until September, 1915, when he established his present business enterprise at Volga, though he still retains possession of his farm and gives to the same a general supervision. Mr. Perkins is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, and the Homesteaders. He has had no desire for the honors or emoluments of public office, but accords a stalwart support to the cause of the Democratic party. In 1879 was recorded the marriage of Mr. Perkins to Miss Ida C. Smith, who was born in the state of Michigan and who is a daughter of Hiram and Adelia (Reed) Smith, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Perkins have three children, of whom the eldest, Arthur E., remains at the parental home and is associated with his father's business; Marvin C. is now a resident of the city of Chicago; and Minerva is at home.

**Andrew Petsche**, who was born in Austria, on the 28th of January, 1868, was a lad of thirteen years when he came to the United States, and during the intervening years he has maintained his home in Iowa, where through his own energy and well directed efforts he has gained secure place as one of the successful farmers and stock-growers of Clayton county. Here he was associated in his youth with the farming operations of his elder brother, John Petsche, of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this history, together with adequate data concerning the family

record, so that it is not necessary to repeat the information in the article here presented. Andrew Petsche is one of the four surviving children of Andrew and Marie (Gerschech) Petsche, and all of the children now reside in Iowa. The father passed his entire life in Austria and the widowed mother was a resident of Clayton county at the time of her death, both having been earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Andrew Petsche, Jr., the immediate subject of this review, gained his rudimentary education in the schools of his native land, and upon coming to the United States he joined his older brother, John, who was then a resident of Dubuque. In that city Andrew was enabled to avail himself of the advantages of the public schools, and after his brother John had become the owner of a farm in Clayton county Andrew became an assistant in the work thereof. He was thus engaged for four years, and for nearly five years thereafter he was employed on other farms in this county. He then rented a farm, and after three years of energetic and successful work thereon he was enabled to purchase his present well improved farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Jefferson township, where he is giving special attention to the breeding and raising of Hereford and Durham cattle and the best breeds of both red and black swine. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church at Guttenberg. On the 4th of February, 1913, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Petsche to Miss Cecelia Follman, and they have a winsome little daughter, Margaret Christina, who was born January 28, 1914. Mrs. Petsche was born at Guttenberg, this county, on the 6th of March, 1885, and there received her education in the public schools. Her parents still maintain their home at Guttenberg, where the father is living retired, after years of successful activity as a representative farmer of his native county. Mrs. Petsche is a daughter of Jacob and Marie Follman, both of whom were born in Germany, where they were married and where their first four children were born, and they had eleven born to them in this county. Thus it will be seen that they became the parents of fifteen children, five sons and ten daughters.

**John Petsche** is a sturdy son of Austria who came to the United States as a youth of about fifteen years and who has so effectively exerted his powers and energies as to achieve success that is worthy of the name. He is now numbered among the progressive and representative farmers of Clayton county, where he has a well improved farm of two hundred acres, eligibly situated in Jefferson township, his activities being directed consistently along the lines of well diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of live stock, including horses, cattle and swine, his specialty being the raising of the Hereford breed of cattle. Mr. Petsche was born in Tschernembl, Austria, on the 1st of October, 1858, and is a son of Andrew and Marie (Gerschech) Petsche, both of whom were born and reared in that same district of Austria, where the father passed his entire life. The loved mother finally joined her children in Iowa, in 1885, and she passed the closing years of her life in the home of her son Andrew. Mary also lives with her brother An-

drew, and Joseph and Andrew are substantial farmers of Clayton county, their farms being in Jefferson township. To the schools of his native land John Petsche is indebted for his early educational discipline, and in 1873, when a lad of fifteen years, he courageously set forth to seek his fortunes in the United States. Soon after his arrival in the port of New York city he made his way to Dubuque, Iowa, where he remained nine years and where he carefully saved the money which he acquired through his own earnest labors. In 1887 he came to Clayton county and purchased eighty acres of land in Jefferson township, where he instituted characteristically vigorous and effective operations as a farmer and where cumulate success attended his well ordered endeavors, with the result that he was eventually able to purchase additional land and became the owner of his present valuable estate of two hundred acres. He has erected excellent buildings on this homestead and everything about the place is kept up to the highest standard, indicative of thrift and good management. Though he has had no ambition for public office of any kind Mr. Petsche has given hearty support to the enterprises and measures that have been projected for the general good of the community, and exercises his franchise in support of the cause of the Democratic party. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic church, of which both he and his wife are zealous communicants. April 12, 1887, recorded the marriage of Mr. Petsche to Miss Clara Koss, who was born at McGregor, this county, on the 18th of June, 1864, and who is a daughter of William and Martha (Hulverson) Koss, venerable pioneer citizens of Farmersburg township, this county, at the time of their death. Mr. Koss was born in Germany and his wife was a native of Norway. Upon coming to Clayton county he established his residence at McGregor, where he was engaged in the work of his trade, that of harness-maker, for a number of years. He then purchased a farm in Farmersburg township, where he and his wife passed the residue of their lives, both having been devout communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. and Mrs. Petsche have eight children—Clara, Mary, Annie, Ellen, Albert, Bernhardt, Raymond and Rosa. All of the children remain at the parental home except Mary, who is the wife of Ernest Kuestner, of Cassville, Grant county, Wisconsin, and Annie, who is the wife of Frank Kirchbaum, of Jefferson township.

**Richard L. Phelps** is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and eighty acres, in Sections 9 and 16, Lodomillo township, and is a progressive and successful agriculturist and stock-raiser of this section of his native state. Mr. Phelps was born in Fayette county, Iowa, on the 4th of November, 1871, and is a son of Seneca and Amanda (McFall) Phelps, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Ohio. Seneca Phelps was a young man when he came to Iowa, about the year 1849, and he became a pioneer of Delaware county, but about the year 1860 he removed thence to Fayette county, where he continued his activities as a farmer until 1894, when he came with his family to Clayton county and purchased a farm in Section 16, Lodomillo township, where he passed the residue of his life and where his widow still resides, his



death having occurred December 29, 1904. This honored pioneer couple became the parents of thirteen children, concerning whom the following brief data may consistently be entered in this review: Adelpia is the wife of Frank J. Sargent, of Kinder, Louisiana, and at the same place resides also Charles J., the second of the children; Daniel O. maintains his home at Wood Center, Clayton county; Elizabeth is the wife of Moses Hockett, of Fremont, Iowa; William is deceased; Sylvester is a resident of Manchester, Delaware county; Richard L., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Laura is the wife of Charles Ryans, of Strawberry Point, this county; Edith is the wife of Otis Bigelow, of Strawberry Point; Sadie is the wife of Eugene Bergins, and they reside in the state of Iowa; Gertrude is the wife of William Jones, of Volga City, Clayton county; Jessie is the wife of Thomas Kilfoil, of Elkader, this county; and Guy resides at Edgewood, one of the progressive villages of Clayton county. Richard L. Phelps acquired his early education in the public schools of Fayette and Clayton counties, and at the age of nineteen years he left the parental home and found employment in a flour mill at Strawberry Point. He devoted about four years to this vocation, and within this period was employed in other mills. He then went to Decatur, Illinois, where he was associated with a prominent dairy enterprise for a period of three years. His next change was made when he returned to Clayton county and assumed charge of the old homestead farm of his parents, and since the same came into his possession he has added fourteen acres to its area, so that he now has a valuable farm of one hundred and eighty acres, situated in Lodomillo township, not far distant from Edgewood, which is his postoffice address. With characteristic energy and discrimination he is giving his attention to diversified agriculture and the raising of good grades of live stock, and he is one of the representative farmers of Lodomillo township, of which he has served as trustee, his political convictions being indicated by the stalwart support which he gives to the cause of the Republican party. Mr. Phelps is a member of the board of directors of the Farmers' Creamery Company at Edgewood and was formerly president of the local Farmers' Telephone Company. He is affiliated with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. In November, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Phelps to Miss Lillian E. Stone, who was born in Delaware county, this state, and their two children are Wesley and Shirley.

**Seymour H. Phillips** is not only to be designated as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of Clayton county but also as one of the substantial landholders and loyal and broad-gauged citizens of the county, where he owns and resides upon a splendidly improved homestead upon which his parents established their abode in a pioneer log house more than forty years ago. Seymour H. Phillips was born in Winnebago county, Illinois, on the 5th of September, 1855, and is a son of Israel and Callie (Goodell) Phillips, both of whom were born and reared in the state of New York, where their marriage was solemnized and where they con-

tinued to reside until 1853, when they established their residence in Winnebago county, Illinois. In 1859 they came to Iowa and established their home in Fayette county, where they resided for the ensuing ten years, at the expiration of which they came with their family to Clayton county and located on the homestead farm now owned by their son, Seymour H., of this review. Here they passed the remainder of their lives and their names merit high place on the roll of the sterling pioneers who did well their part in furthering the industrial and social development and upbuilding of Clayton county. He whose name introduces this article gained his preliminary education in the schools of Fayette county and was a lad of about fourteen years at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, where he was reared to manhood on the farm which he now owns and occupies. Here he continued his studies in the public schools until he was fortified for matriculation in an institution of higher academic order. He entered college and his collegiate course covered a period of three years. He put his acquirements to practical test through his identification with the pedagogic profession, of which he was a successful and popular representative, as a teacher in the schools of Clayton county, for seven terms. He had the good judgment not to sever permanently his allegiance to and active association with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-raising, in which he became associated with his two brothers, on the old homestead farm, where they specialized in the breeding and raising of thoroughbred shorthorn Durham cattle. The three brothers are the only survivors of a family of nine children, and they are associated in the ownership of a well improved landed estate of six hundred and eighty acres in Minnesota, where two of the brothers now reside, leaving the subject of this review, who is a bachelor, as the only representative of the immediate family in Clayton county. Seymour H. Phillips owns in his homestead farm, in Section 28, Sperry township, two hundred and sixty-eight acres of as fine land as is to be found in this favored section of the Hawkeye state, and this well-improved estate is given over to well-ordered operations along the lines of diversified agriculture and the raising of high-grade live stock, especially the Durham type of cattle. Mr. Phillips is aligned as a stalwart and well-fortified advocate of the principles and policies of the Democratic party, served sixteen years in the office of justice of the peace and has further manifested his civic loyalty and progressiveness by his service as a member of the school board of his district. His attractive home receives service on a rural mail route from Strawberry Point.

**Frederick T. Pilkington**, vice-president of the State Bank of Edgewood, has proved a man of marked energy and business acumen and has long been a well known and influential citizen of Clayton county. He was born near Peoria, Illinois, on the 26th of May, 1858, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Stewart) Pilkington, the former a native of England and the latter of the state of Pennsylvania. John Pilkington was reared and educated in his native land and upon coming to America, in 1848, he established his residence in Pennsylvania, where he continued to maintain his

home for several years after his marriage. From the old Keystone state he finally removed to Illinois, and thence he came to Clayton county, Iowa, in 1860. He was a brickmaker by trade, but after establishing his home in Clayton county he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and became one of the substantial farmers and honored and influential citizens of the county. He was about seventy-two years of age at the time of his death and his wife passed away when about sixty-nine years of age, the subject of this review being the eldest of their five children; Alice is the wife of Charles E. Lovett, of Volga, this county; William J. is a merchant and the publisher of a trade journal in the city of Des Moines; Charles S. is a resident of Westerville, Franklin county, Ohio; and Mary, who was the second child, is deceased. Frederick T. Pilkington was about two years old at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, and that as a boy and youth he profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools of the county is clearly indicated by the fact that when but sixteen years of age he proved himself eligible for pedagogic honors and became a successful and popular teacher in the district schools. He so directed his own studies as to advance himself splendidly along academic lines and he continued his services as a teacher during a period of about ten years. Thereafter he was engaged for a time in the mercantile business at Lima, Fayette county, and after leaving that village he became associated with his brother-in-law, Charles E. Lovett, in the general merchandise business at Littleport, Clayton county. After the partnership was dissolved by the withdrawal of Mr. Lovett the enterprise was successfully continued by Mr. Pilkington who carried on the business in an individual way for a period of about eighteen years. He then removed to Edgewood, his present home, where he became associated with L. B. Blanchard in the real estate and insurance business. Later he purchased a stock of furniture and engaged in the general furniture business, this enterprise being now under the direct management of his only son. Mr. Pilkington gives close attention to his executive duties as a director and the vice-president of the State Bank of Edgewood, and he is known as a substantial, progressive and liberal citizen of the county that has represented his home during the major part of his life thus far. His political faith is indicated by the staunch support which he accords to the Democratic party, and in a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Royal Neighbors. On the 15th of March, 1881, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Pilkington to Miss Caroline Woodall, who was born in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and who was a child at the time of her parents' removal to Clayton county, Iowa. She is a daughter of William G. and Rachel (White) Woodall, who are now venerable in years and who maintain their home at Edgewood, Mrs. Pilkington being their only surviving child. Mr. Woodall was born in the state of New York and his wife was born at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Pilkington have four children: Grace is the wife of Edward Boehm, of Delaware county, this state;



George W., the only son, is engaged in the furniture business at Edgewood, as previously intimated in this sketch; and Maye and Hazel are the younger members of the ideal family circle of the parental home.

**George W. Pixler** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth, has here gained precedence as a prominent and successful representative of agricultural and live-stock enterprise, and the unqualified popular esteem in which he is held is shown in the fact that in 1916 he is serving in the responsible office of county supervisor. His well-improved homestead farm is situated in Section 26, Grand Meadow township, and comprises three hundred and twenty-acres of land. The place gives forth every evidence of thrift and good management, and many of the substantial improvements on this ideal rural estate have been made by the present owner. In the township in which he now resides, George W. Pixler was born on the 17th of February, 1861, and he was the sixth in order of birth in a family of eight children, of whom four are now living. He is a son of James M. and Eliza (Fry) Pixler, the former a native of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Huntington county, Pennsylvania. The marriage of the parents was solemnized in Pennsylvania and in 1850 they became pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, where they resided, during the first three years, on a rented farm. The father then purchased a farm in Grand Meadow township, and upon this place, which he reclaimed and brought to a high state of cultivation, both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, honored pioneers whose names well merit place on the pages of Clayton county history. George W. Pixler gained in his boyhood and youth the practical experience that admirably reinforced him for the responsibilities which he assumed when he instituted his independent career as a farmer. He fully profited by the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county and supplemented this by attending Fayette College during two terms. He continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm until 1884, when, at the age of twenty-three years, he wedded Miss May Harmon, who was born in Wisconsin and the parents of whom are both deceased. About the time of his marriage Mr. Pixler purchased a portion of his present fine landed estate, which now comprises three hundred and twenty acres and constitutes one of the model farms of Grand Meadow township. In connection with his well-ordered agricultural operations Mr. Pixler gives special attention to the raising of the black polled type of cattle and other excellent grades of live stock, and his progressiveness and use of scientific methods and policies have made him an influential factor in connection with the promotion of the agricultural and live-stock interests of his native county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, he has been called upon to serve as township assessor and as a member of the school board, and, as before stated, he is now serving in the office of the county supervisor. He is affiliated with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and he and his wife attend the Methodist Epis-

copal church. Their pleasant home is a center of gracious hospitality and they delight there to extend welcome to their large circle of friends. Of their eight children all are living except the last, Lester, who died at the age of two years. James R., the eldest of the number, is now one of the successful young farmers of Clayton county; Ina A. is the wife of Henry Schultz, of this county; Ernest E. is engaged in farming in the state of South Dakota; Roy R. has the practical supervision of the old homestead farm of his father; and Ralph C., George F. and Gerald are the younger members of the ideal home circle.

**William Pixler** has clearly demonstrated his energy and progressiveness in connection with the agricultural and live-stock industries in his native county and is the owner of one of the well-improved farms of Mendon township, where he is successfully prosecuting his operation in diversified agriculture and the raising of fine horses, cattle and hogs. He has not faltered in loyalty to his native county and is contributing his quota to its civic and industrial prosperity; the while he has secure place in popular confidence and good will. In the township of Mendon, Clayton county, Iowa, William Pixler was born on the 24th of June, 1867, and he is a son of Amos and Sarah Ann (Markle) Pixler, the former of whom was born in the State of Indiana and the latter in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Coming to Clayton county in the pioneer period of its history, Amos Pixler purchased a tract of unimproved land in Mendon township, and there he continued his activities as an enterprising farmer for the entire course of a long and successful career. He and his wife still maintain their home in Mendon township, where he is now living virtually retired, in the merited enjoyment of the rewards of former years of earnest toil and endeavor and honored as one of the sterling pioneer citizens of the county, his political allegiance having always been given to the Republican party. Of the children Melinda, the first-born, died in childhood; George resides on his farm south of McGregor, this county; Marietta is deceased; William, of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Eliza is the wife of David Shaw, a farmer of Clayton township; and Nathan is a successful representative of agricultural enterprise in Mendon township. William Pixler did not neglect to make good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county and in the meanwhile he gained equally valuable discipline and experience in connection with the work of his father's farm. In beginning his activities as an independent agriculturist he rented a farm in his home township, and later purchased a place of eighty acres, this farm continuing to be his place of residence until he acquired his present homestead of eighty acres, Mendon township, where he has since continued his zealous and effective activities as an up-to-date agriculturist and stock-grower. He has found no reason to deviate from a course of strict allegiance to the Republican party, but he has had no desire to enter the arena of practical politics or to become a seeker of public office of any description. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World, as a member of the camp at

McGregor. In October, 1892, Mr. Pixler wedded Miss Gertrude Hayes, daughter of Addison and Melissa Hayes, of Clayton township, and the two children of this union are George and Orville, both of whom are now residents of the city of Rockford, Illinois. Mrs. Pixler was summoned to the life eternal in May, 1899 and on the 6th of July, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Pixler to Miss Ida Barnhouse, who likewise was born and reared in this county, where she made good use of the advantages of the public schools. She is a daughter of Philip and Mary (Brookner) Barnhouse, the former of whom was born and reared in Ohio and the latter near Calmar, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where her parents were pioneer settlers. Philip Barnhouse came to Clayton county in an early day and became one of the representative farmers and influential citizens of Farmersburg township, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred February 18, 1890, his wife having passed away September 11, 1885. Mrs. Pixler was born on the old homestead farm of her father, in Farmersburg township, and the date of her nativity was January 3, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Pixler have five children, namely: Albert, Mae, Charles, Bertha and Ida, and the attractive family home is known for its cordial hospitality and good cheer.

**Alpine Whenin Price** was born June 10th, 1855, in a frame building on the new farm named "Alpine Grove" in section eleven, Jefferson township, Clayton county, Iowa, his parents having sold the old homestead "Glen Fruin" in 1854. The four youngest children went with their father, Eliphalet Price, to Colorado Springs, Colo., where Alpine went to school in the winter and with his mule team did freighting and other work in the spring. He had a contract with Uncle Sam (U. S.), to cut and deliver fifteen cords of wood at the United States Signal Station on the very top of Pikes Peak, then in charge of Sergeant O'Kief, the signal and telegraph operator. He cut the wood on the south side of the mountain about one mile below the top, as no timber grows near the top of Pikes Peak. He said it was the hardest job of work he ever did. He then went to San Jose, Calif., and attended a commercial school and soon got a good position with his uncle who was doing a large commercial and banking business and is now well to do, besides owning a fifty-acre prune and apricot farm.

In selecting a name for this boy, Judge Price said: "For his first name, I will take the name of a beautiful flower which bears the name Alpine, and grows profusely on the sunny side of the Arctic mountains. Before announcing his middle name I will read a part of the Declaration of Independence, which I regard as the greatest document that was ever written by man in defense of his country, his fellow men and posterity.

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinion of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.



“We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

“I will take the first two words of the Declaration of Independence for his middle name. His name shall be Alpine Whenin Price.”

**Avalo Jersey Price** was born on the Glen Fruin farm on January 12th, 1844. He enlisted as a private in Company H of the Twelfth Regiment of Iowa Volunteers. Henry J. Playtor was captain of the company, which was composed principally of young men of Dubuque and Delaware counties. He was in the battle at the taking of Fort Henry and assisted as guard in taking some of the confederates to the army prison in Ohio. Among them was the son of George W. Jones, who for many years was United States senator from Iowa, and a son of Mr. Lewis of the United States Land office at Dubuque, and others who went from Dubuque and joined the confederate army. He was at the battle of Fort Donelson, which was taken, but he was wounded and went home on a furlough, but returned in time to be in the battle of Shiloh, when the Twelfth, Eighth and Fourteenth Iowa regiments fought all day and until sunset, when they surrendered and were taken to Andersonville, where he and his brother Valmah remained about eight months, when paroled. He then came home and assisted in raising the Eighth Iowa Cavalry and received the appointment of major, which position he held until about the close of the war, when, owing to the severe wound received at Shiloh and the hardships of the cavalry service, he resigned and went to the Rocky Mountains and to New Mexico, where he became ill and started for his home in Iowa. On April 8th, 1871, he arrived at St. Vincent hospital in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he died on April 11th, 1871.

**Eliphalet Price** was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, on January 31st, 1811, and died at Colorado Springs, Colorado, on December 10th, 1880. A sketch of his life work and writings are fully set forth in this book by his talented and affectionate friend, Judge Samuel Murdock. Mary Lowe Cottle, the wife of Eliphalet Price, was born at St. Charles, Missouri, on April 30th, 1814, and died at her home in Jefferson township, Clayton county, Iowa, November 19th, 1865. She was the mother of two girls and six boys, all living at the time of her death, except her son Valmah.

**Eliphalet Inthe Price** was born on the “Glen Fruin” farm December 16th, 1851. It was several months after his birth before it was decided what his name should be. The mother of Judge Price resided in New York City and had for many years insisted that one of the boys should be named after her husband, whose name was Eliphalet Price, a life long minister, promulgating the Presbyterian doctrine and abolition, and who had baptized many hundreds of his followers in the Hudson river and along the ocean beach of New Jersey regardless of color, complexion or nationality. It was on a Sunday morning, when Judge Price took down from

the shelf over the old fire place the Bible, and after dusting away the smoke dust with a turkey wing, he turned to the first chapter of Genesis, and read aloud to the family these words: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." The Judge stopped and said: "My mother insists that the boy must be named Eliphalet after Father. I now yield to her wish, but all our children must have a middle name. I will put together the first two words of this Bible, which I regard as the greatest historical work that has ever been compiled by man and read by the people of all the civilized nations of the world. His name shall be Eliphalet Inthe Price." He was postmaster of Colorado Springs for eight years. At the expiration of his term he removed to San Jose, in Santa Clara county, California, where he was married to Miss Ida Cauffman, late of Henry county, Iowa, a lady of culture, and a kind and instructive mother of three boys born to them, to-wit: Eliphalet C. Price, born January 13, 1897. Oliver S. Price, born July 26, 1899. David W. Price born April 28, 1902. He has a fine home with a thirty-acre prune and apricot orchard.

**Realto Exzeque Price** was born in a log cabin on the "Black Spring" farm in Section 11 in Jefferson township, Clayton county, Iowa, on August 1st, 1840. He passed his early life in the common school and at the Upper Iowa University at Fayette during the college year of 1857 and 1858, and on the farm. In May, 1860, he entered the law office of Murdock & Hunt, at Elkader, where he remained two years. The next nine months he worked in the law office of Odell & Updegraff, at McGregor, on a salary of eight dollars a month and board. In January, 1863, he was admitted to the bar, and at the same time entered into a partnership with B. F. Hunt in the practice of law at Elkader, which partnership continued for six years and was dissolved, Mr. Hunt having been elected Circuit Judge, retiring from the firm. Marvin Cook, who had practiced law for about one year in Elkader, then became a partner under the firm name of Price & Cook, which continued from November 1st, 1869, to January 1st, 1873, when Mr. Cook was elected County Clerk. Since then Mr. Price practiced law alone until his son, Valmah Tupelo Price, had finished a four year course in the collegiate department and a two year course in the law department of the University of the State of Iowa, receiving a diploma in each department. He then went into partnership with his father August 1st, 1891, under the firm name of R. E. & V. T. Price, which partnership still continues. In politics R. E. Price was a Republican, but did not have any desire for office but preferred to follow his vocation and help other deserving candidates to office. However, at the time of incorporating the town of Elkader, he did accept the office of councilman and served twenty-two years and three months faithfully working with other councilmen in getting the town incorporated, and devoted much time personally in overseeing the work of putting in the construction of the waterworks and in compelling the C. M. & St. Paul Railroad Co. to extend their railroad four and one-half miles from Stulta in Pony Hollow to Elkader, by legal proceeding before the railroad commissioners of Iowa and

many other services rendered the town and county, and all that he received was twenty-two and 50/100 dollars (\$22.50). He is a stockholder in the First National Bank, has been director for thirty-two years, vice-president for eighteen years, and has been president since January 12th, 1904, twelve years. Realto Exzeque Price was married to Miss Sarah Filetta Stewart, in Elkader, Iowa, on October 16th, 1866. To them were born three sons, Valmah Tupelo Price, born at Elkader, Clayton county, Iowa, October 11th, 1867; James R. Price, born at Elkader, Clayton county, Iowa, February 17th, 1872, and died at the same place on May 22nd, 1877; Stewart Realto Price, born at Elkader, Clayton county, Iowa, October 22nd, 1879. Valmah Tupelo Price, son of Realto Exzeque and Sarah Filetta Stewart, was married to Miss Nelly Peery, a daughter of Judge Stephen and Mrs. Emma Peery, May 31st, 1894, at San Diego, Cal. To them were born three children, Filetta Winifred Price, born at San Diego, Cal., June 11, 1895, and died at Elkader, Iowa, March 21, 1890; Herbert Peery Price was born at Elkader, Iowa, July 17th, 1901; Valmah Tupelo Price, Jr., was born at Elkader, Iowa, July 2nd, 1910. All the rest of the Price family were born in the old log cabin on the farm named "Glen Fruin," being the east half of Section 14 in Jefferson township, Clayton county, Iowa, except Alpine.

**Trevereous Glorian Price** was born on the "Glen Fruin" farm on June 27th, 1846. In 1863 he enlisted as a private in Company A, 4th Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and served until the close of the war. After being mustered out he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1868. He received an appointment as Railroad Postal Clerk on the road between Dubuque, Iowa, and St. Paul, Minn., which he held for about four years, when he was elected and appointed postmaster at Elkader, which position he held four years, and then moved to Burlington, Kit Carson county, Colo., where he was elected Clerk of Kit Carson county, and held the office four years. He was elected a member of the legislature of Colorado from Kit Carson county, and served one term, and is now serving his second term as Mayor of the town of Burlington, Colorado. He has been a resident of Burlington for twenty-nine years. He was married to Mary Hawn who died in Elkader, Clayton county, Iowa, on August 18th, 1879, leaving one son, named Avalo Price, who resides in Denver, Colo. Miss Illyria Ann Price was born on the "Glen Fruin" farm July 7th, 1848, and kept house for her father in Colorado Springs until her death on June 3rd, 1873. Miss Mary Ellen Price was born on the "Glen Fruin" farm on March 16th, 1850. Ellen was an invalid all her life and died on March 14th, 1914.

**Valmah Valentine Price** was born on the "Glen Fruin" farm September 15th, 1842. He enlisted as a private in Company H, of the Twelfth Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and under the command of Captain Henry J. Playtor was ordered to Kentucky, and on arrival there went into battle and captured Fort Henry and a number of prisoners, and then into battle at Fort Donelson, which was captured and many confederates taken. He was in the



battle of Shiloh in company with the Twelfth, Eighth and Fourteenth regiments, who fought gallantly all day and at sunset surrendered, and were taken to that loathsome death hole at Andersonville, an everlasting disgrace to the chivalry and autocrats of the confederacy. They were exchanged in about eight months. Valmah again enlisted in Company H of the Twelfth Iowa Regiment Infantry Volunteers, and while acting orderly sergeant of the company at the battle of Tupelo in Mississippi on the 15th day of July, 1864, he was badly wounded and thrown into a freight car and taken to Mobile, where he died on July 28th, 1864. A patriotic Union lady at Mobile took charge of the bodies of the Iowa soldiers and had them buried in a cemetery and a stone placed at the head of their graves. This information was received by R. E. Price from a sealed letter addressed to him and postmarked at Mobile and containing a printed slip cut from a newspaper.

**Ernest O. Probert** is a popular representative of the third generation of the Probert family in Clayton county, which has been his home from the time of his birth and in which he is now a prominent and successful exponent of the fundamental industries of agriculture and stock-growing in Highland township. He is carrying forward his energetic and well-ordered operations on a landed estate of about two hundred acres, and this includes the old homestead farm, of fifty-eight and one-half acres, on which he was born and which is situated in Highland township. On the farm where he now resides Mr. Probert was born on the 29th of May, 1886, and he is a son of William and Mary (Grimm) Probert, the former of whom was born in this county, of Scotch parents who here settled in the early pioneer days, and the latter of whom was born in Wisconsin, of German parentage. William Probert long held precedence as one of the substantial farmers of his native county and is now living virtually retired in the village of Colga, where he and his wife have a pleasant home in which they find pleasure in extending gracious hospitality to their many friends, both being members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Probert being a Republican in his political allegiance. Of the three children the eldest is H. Oaklin, who likewise is one of the representative farmers of Highland township; Ernest O., of this sketch, was the second in order of birth; and Eva remains at the parental home. Ernest O. Probert has been from his boyhood days identified with the activities of the old homestead farm on which he now resides and after completing the curriculum of the district schools he availed himself also of the advantages of the high school at Volga City, Ia. He has had the loyalty and good judgment not to sever his allegiance to the farm, and through the medium of his independent activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower he has achieved marked success and precedence, with secure standing as one of the substantial and honored citizens of his native township and county. He has not sought political activity or public office, but is one of the progressive and public-spirited young men of the county, accords stalwart support to the cause of the Republican party and both he and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church. His home

receives service on rural mail route No. 1 from the village of Volga. On the 15th of September, 1908, Mr. Probert wedded Miss Minnie Steckleberg, and they have one son, William John, who was born July 30, 1911.

Gustav Pufahl was a lad of about thirteen years when he accompanied his parents on their immigration from Germany to the United States, in 1871, and in that year the family home was established at Guttenberg, Clayton county. That he has proved himself a man of energy and ability and that he has availed himself consistently of the advantages afforded in this section of the Hawkeye state needs no further voucher than the statement that he is the owner of one of the large and well-improved landed estates of the county and has secure prestige as a representative agriculturist and stock-grower whose success has been the direct result of his own well-ordered endeavors. Mr. Pufahl was born in the northeastern part of Prussia, on the 6th of September, 1858, and is a son of Gottlieb and Wilhelmina (Kobs) Pufahl, who there continued to maintain their home until 1871 when they came to America and established their residence at Guttenberg, Clayton county, where the family arrived on the 2d of July of that year. Here the father was employed for a time in a saw mill and later he purchased a tract of ten acres of land, upon which he made good improvements, this little homestead continuing to be the place of residence of both himself and his wife during the remainder of their lives. Both were earnest communicants of the Lutheran church and in politics he gave his allegiance to the Republican party. Of the children the subject of this sketch is the eldest; Bertha is the wife of Frederick Williams; of Steamboat Springs, Colo.; Julius is deceased; Herman resides at Bolivar, Mo.; Emil, Otto and Emma are deceased; and Mrs. Hulda Burke maintains her home in Colorado. Gustav Pufahl gained his early education in his native land and continued his studies in the public schools after the family home had been established in Clayton county. As a youth he was for a time employed in a printing office in Guttenberg, this county, later he assisted in the operation of a saw mill and thereafter he was engaged in farm work until he had attained to the age of twenty-five years, when he rented a farm and initiated his independent activities as an agriculturist. Under these conditions he continued his activities with characteristic energy for the ensuing six years, at the expiration of which he purchased, in 1889, a tract of two hundred and thirty acres of land in Monona township. To this he has since added an adjoining eighty acres, and he has developed the property into one of the model farms of Clayton county, the excellent buildings on the homestead having been erected by him. He gives his attention to diversified agriculture and to the raising of high-grade live stock, including short-horn cattle and Poland-China swine. Indomitable energy and excellent judgment have marked his activities and he has achieved substantial and worthy success. He is a stockholder and director of the Luana Savings Bank, is a Republican, has served as school director, and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. On the 6th of December,

1887, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Pufahl to Miss Elizabeth Bierbaum, who was born and reared in this county and who was afforded the advantages of the public schools of Garnavillo, near which village the homestead farm of her parents was situated, her father being now deceased and her mother being a resident of Monona, this county. Mrs. Pufahl is a daughter of Christopher and Florentina (Johanningmeyer) Bierbaum, who immigrated to America from Germany in 1845, passing the first year in Ohio and then coming to Iowa and numbering themselves among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county, where the father obtained a tract of government land, between Guttenberg and Garnavillo, and where he reclaimed one of the valuable farms of the county. He was a Democrat in his political proclivities and was a communicant of the Lutheran church, as is also his venerable widow. Of their children several are now living and of the number Mrs. Pufahl was born May 22, 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Pufahl have three children, all of whom remain at the parental home, namely: Albert, Edward and Florentina.

Henry Pust has been a resident of the village of Littleport for more than forty-eight years, and as a contractor and builder and a dealer in lumber, he has contributed much to the physical development of this part of the county. After a long and signally successful business career, he is now living virtually retired, though he continues to give his personal supervision to his property interests in this county and elsewhere. Mr. Pust was born in Germany, on the 16th of March, 1844, and though he has passed the psalmist's span of three score years and ten he is still vigorous in mind and physical powers and shows the consistent results of right thinking and right living. He is a son of August Christof and Elizabeth (Bronahl) Pust, who came to America in 1871 and took possession of the comfortable house which their son, Henry, had erected for them at Littleport, where he had established his residence two years previously. Here they passed the remainder of their lives, devout members of the Lutheran church, and both attained to venerable age. Of their children, Katherine, the eldest, remains in Germany, and the subject of this review is the youngest. The other three children, Elizabeth, Dorothea and Maria, are deceased. Henry Pust gained his early education in the excellent schools of his native land and there also he learned the trade of carpenter. He was twenty-five years of age when he came to the United States and established his home in Clayton county, where he for many years carried on successful operations as a contractor and builder. In 1889 he established at Littleport a well-equipped lumber yard, and to the management of this prosperous business he continued to devote his attention until he retired when he sold the same and consistently retired from the activities that had long been his portion and that had gained to him substantial prosperity. He is the owner of a considerable amount of valuable real estate at Littleport, including his own residence, which is one of the fine homes of this part of the county. He owns property in the village of Guttenberg also, and in Stanley county, South Dakota, he has a well-improved farm





HENRY PUST AND WIFE

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of one hundred and sixty acres, this being land which he obtained from the government and upon which he resided ten months of each year until he had perfected his title to the property. His political support is given to the Democratic party and he has been called upon to serve in various public offices of local order. He was constable for fourteen years, township trustee four years, and a member of the village council of Littleport for four years. He is a charter member of Littleport Camp, No. 1723, Modern Woodmen of America, and was one of the founders of the Lutheran church at Littleport, of which he and his wife became earnest communicants and of which he is now serving as secretary of the board of trustees. In the year 1871 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Pust to Miss Sophia Pike, who was born in the city of Baltimore, Md. Their devoted companionship continued for more than forty-four years and the tender and gracious ties were severed only when the loved wife and mother was summoned to the life eternal, her death having occurred October 30, 1915, and her memory being revered by all who came within the compass of her gentle influence. Emil W., eldest of their children, is engaged in the lumber and merchandise business at Alberta, Canada, and is postmaster of his town; Christian C. is one of the leading business men of Littleport, where he is engaged in the hardware, implement, furniture and lumber business; Lizzie is the wife of Albert G. Grenwalt, M. D., who is engaged in the practice of his profession at Runnells, Polk county, Iowa; and Louisa is the wife of J. Liddy, of Littleport.

Edwin W. Radach has made for himself secure vantage place as one of the representative business men of the younger generation in his native county and is engaged in the conducting of a well-equipped general store in the village of Clayton, where his substantial trade is based upon effective service and fair and honorable dealings. Mr. Radach was born in the village of Guttenberg, this county, on the 16th of July, 1883, a member of a family of five children, of whom two are living. He is a son of John and Henrietta (Meltzer) Radach, who were born and reared in Germany, where their marriage was solemnized and whence they came to America in 1883, in May of which year, about two months prior to the birth of the subject of this review, they established their home in Clayton county, Iowa, where they still reside and where the father has been sexton of the City Cemetery. In the public schools of his native county Edwin W. Radach continued his studies until his graduation in the high school at Guttenberg, and he then put his acquirements to practical test and utilization by becoming a teacher in the district schools, his activities in the pedagogic profession having continued, and that with marked success, during a period of three years. He then established his present business enterprise at Clayton and he has since been known as one of the leading business men and influential citizens of this village, with inviolable place in popular confidence and good will. He has not sought public office or to enter the domain of practical politics, but he gives staunch support to the cause of the Democratic party and takes helpful interest in those things that tend to conserve the civic and material welfare



of the community. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran church. In 1908 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Radach to Miss Linda Wedemeyer, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Henry and Mary (Stade) Wedemeyer. Her parents were born in Germany and came to America in the '50s. Her father was one of the substantial farmers of Clayton county at the time of his death and here his venerable widow still maintains her home. Mr. and Mrs. Radach have one son, Orville J. H.

**Edward C. Rawson, M. D.**, is one of the able and representative physicians and surgeons of Clayton county and is engaged in the successful general practice of his profession at Strawberry Point, in which attractive little city of the present day he was born on the 8th of April, 1866. It is most gratifying to note the prominence and popularity which are his in his native county, both as a liberal citizen and as a physician of fine attainments, for he is not only a scion of one of the honored pioneer families of the county but is also a son of one of the honored pioneer physicians and surgeons of this section of the Hawkeye state. Dr. Edward Clark Rawson is a son of Dr. Clark Holden Rawson and Caroline A. (Brownell) Rawson, whose marriage was solemnized at Strawberry Point, on the 28th of December, 1858, the former having been born in the state of New York and the latter in Wisconsin. Dr. Clark H. Rawson's parents were native of England and after coming to America they maintained their home in the state of New York, where their son, Clark H., was born and reared and where he received excellent educational advantages, as gauged by the standards of the locality and period. The Doctor studied medicine under the preceptorship of his brother-in-law, Dr. H. S. Potter, of Schroon Lake, Essex county, New York, and he supplemented this discipline by an effective course in a medical college at Castleton, Vermont—an institution in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1844. Thereafter he was for several years associated in practice with his former preceptor, Dr. Potter, at Schroon Lake, New York, and he then removed to the eastern part of the state of Illinois, where he engaged in practice with marked success and where he made a splendid record of professional service during the cholera epidemic that prevailed in that section in 1854. In 1857 the Doctor came to Clayton county, Iowa, and established his residence at Strawberry Point, where he engaged in practice and where his marriage was solemnized in the following year, as previously noted in this context, his wife having becoming a resident of Strawberry Point in 1853, when her parents here established their home. The ability and indefatigable zeal of Dr. Rawson gained to him a substantial and widely disseminated practice, and in the pioneer days he endured, without faltering and with unselfish devotion, many arduous labors and incidental hardships in ministering to those in affliction throughout a wide radius of country that was sparsely settled and that had roads that at many times were almost impassable. He never denied the calls made upon him, no matter how stormy the night or how great the distance he was compelled to traverse, and

thus it may well be understood that there was ample cause for the affectionate esteem which was granted to him in which he long lived and labored and in which his very presence was a benediction. He continued in active practice until advancing years led to his retirement, and, revered by all who knew him, he passed to eternal rest on the 28th of July, 1901, when 83 years of age. His widow still resides in the attractive old homestead that has been her place of abode for more than half a century, and she celebrated in 1916 her seventy-seventh birthday anniversary. A kindly and gracious gentle woman, she is loved by all who have come within the compass of her influence, and is one of the honored pioneer women of Clayton county. Dr. Edward C. Rawson, the only child of his parents, acquired his early education in the public schools of Strawberry Point and as a youth he was inspired to adopt the profession that was signally honored by the character and services of his father, under whose direction he gained his preliminary training. He finally went to the city of Chicago and entered the medical school of Northwestern University, and in this celebrated institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1891 and with the well-earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. He initiated the active practice of his profession in his native town, on the 28th of April, 1891, and became the virtual successor of his honored father. He has long controlled a large and representative practice and has secure prestige as one of the leading physicians and surgeons of his native county. He is an active member of the Clayton County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. The Doctor continues a close and appreciative student of the best standard and periodical literature of his profession and spares neither time nor effort in keeping in close touch with the advances made in medical and surgical science. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he is affiliated with the local lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons and that of the Knights of Pythias, of which latter he has served as chancellor commander. June 8, 1892, recorded the marriage of Dr. Rawson to Miss Gertrude E. Gilchrist, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and of the two children of this union only the younger is living, Rayma G., who was born November 10, 1903. Don M., the first child, was born December 4, 1896, and his death occurred March 13, 1902.

**Michael Regan** has been a resident of Clayton county since he was about two years of age, was reared under the conditions and influences that marked the pioneer epoch of the history of the county, and has gained prominence and distinctive success as one of the representative business men of Elkader, the county seat, where he is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, as senior member of the well known firm of Regan & Witte. He became one of the founders of this enterprise nearly thirty years ago, and his careful and progressive policies, marked at all times by fair and honorable dealings, have been potent in the development and upbuilding of one of the leading business concerns of the capital city of the county, in addition to which he has proved altogether

worthy of the unequivocal confidence reposed in him by the community. Mr. Regan takes a due measure of pride in reverting to the old Buckeye State as the place of his nativity, and is appreciative of the genial paraphrase once made of a popular quotation when Hon. Chauncey M. Depew stated it this: "Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some are born in the State of Ohio." In Clermont county, that state, Mr. Regan was born on the 14th of March, 1852, and in 1854 his parents came to Clayton county, Iowa, which has since represented his home. He is a son of John and Margaret (McGrath) Regan, both of whom were born in Ireland. John Regan was reared to manhood in his native land and came to the United States in 1836. He maintained his home in Clermont county, Ohio, until 1854, when he came with his family to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneer farmers of Clayton county. He obtained a tract of government land in what is now Boardman township, where he developed a good farm and became influential as a broad-minded and progressive citizen. He aided materially in furthering the development of the county and was a man who commanded the respect of all who knew him. While residing in Clermont county, Ohio, he served as postmaster of the village of Loveland, and in Clayton county, Iowa, he filled township offices with characteristic discrimination and fidelity. He and his wife were honored pioneer citizens of this county at the time of their death. John Regan's first wife bore the maiden name of Mary Dempsey, and she died in Clermont county, Ohio. They became the parents of four children, James, Patrick, Mary and Jeremiah, all of whom are deceased except the last mentioned. Of the four children of the second marriage the subject of this review was the third in order of birth; William, the eldest, is now a resident of the city of Seattle, Wash.; and John and Daniel are deceased, so that Michael remains as the only representative of the immediate family in Clayton county. He whose name initiates this article gained his early education in the pioneer schools of Clayton county and here continued his active association with agricultural pursuits until 1888, when he located at Elkader and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, as a member of the firm of Kruse & Regan. Mr. Kruse later sold his interest in the business to William E. Witte, and the enterprise has since been continued under the firm title of Regan & Witte, the establishment being large and well equipped, with the best of stock and incidental facilities in all departments, the while its high reputation constitutes its best business asset. Mr. Regan has devoted himself closely to his business affairs and though he has shown loyal interest in all things touching the communal welfare and is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, he has had no ambition for political activity or for public office. He and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, as were also his parents, and he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. October 17, 1894, marked the solemnization of the marriage of Mr. Regan to Miss Katherine Uriell, who was born and reared in this county, and of their five children the second, Mary

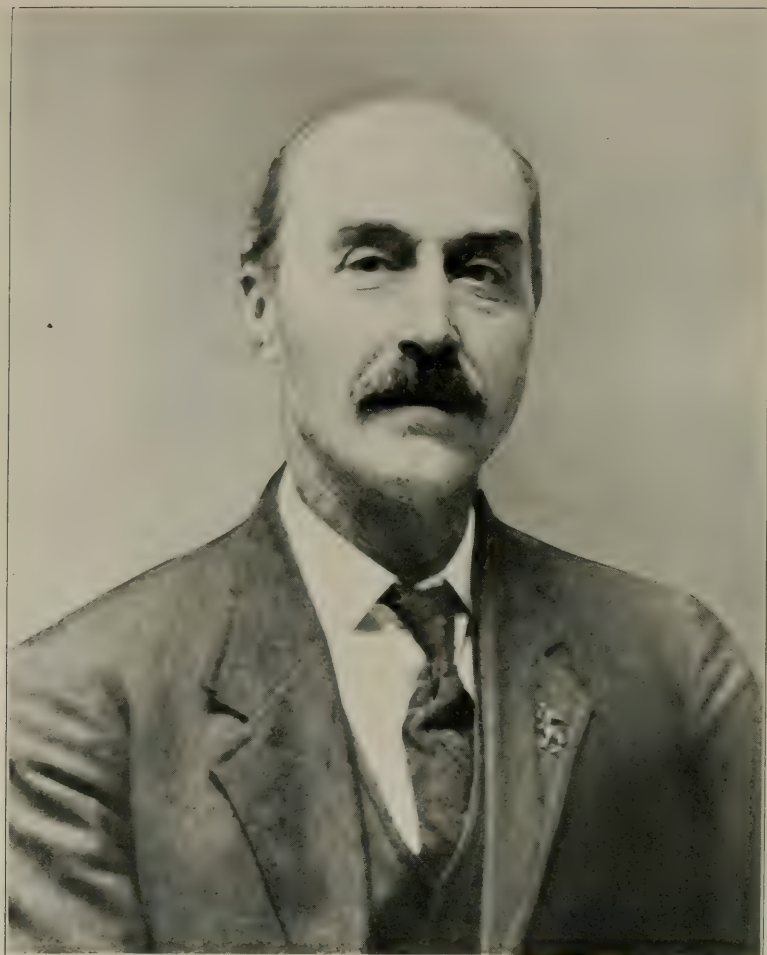


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Margaret, is deceased, the four surviving children being Ruey Rosalia, Katherine Elizabeth, John Joseph, and Dorothy Dolores.

**Henry Reichart** has been engaged in business in his native town of Littleport since 1894 and is one of the representative business men and well known citizens of Clayton county, where he has won success and independence through his own ability. He was born at Littleport on the 4th of January, 1869, and is a son of Frederick and Mary (Dahling) Reichart, both natives of Germany and both children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to America. Frederick Reichart was a lad of fourteen years when his parents established their home at Guttenberg, Clayton county, and his wife was thirteen years old when her parents became residents of the same village. Frederick Reichart was here reared to manhood, here he learned the carpenter's trade, and he was for many years one of the successful contractors and builders of Clayton county. He died on the 15th of April, 1915, and his widow now resides in the city of Dubuque. The eldest of their children is Augusta, who is the widow of Michael Ronig and who maintains her home at Dubuque; Louisa is the wife of Frank Christ, of that city; Dora is deceased; William resides at Littleport; the subject of this sketch was the next in order of birth; Lena and Frederick are deceased; Mary is the wife of William Koeh, of Elkader; Clara is the wife of Otto Newmaster, of Dubuque; Charles is a resident of Littleport; and Ida is the wife of Michael Cuzeick, of Dubuque. Henry Reichart is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early educational discipline, and in his earlier youth he gave his attention to agricultural pursuits. At the age of twenty-one years he began work as a bridge carpenter for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, and after having been thus engaged for a period of seven years he engaged in the merchandise business at Littleport, where he has since continued to be successfully identified with this line of enterprise. His tastes and ambitions have been entirely aside from the activities of politics and the holding of public office, but his civic loyalty is unmistakable and his support is given to the cause of the Democratic party. On the 4th of April, 1894, Mr. Reichart wedded Miss Louisa Ambruster, who was born and reared in this county, and they have two daughters, Pearl and Lanida. The elder daughter was, in 1916, a student in the Bayless Business College, in the city of Dubuque.

**John G. Reidel** has been a resident of Clayton county from the days of his childhood and is another of the native sons of Iowa who have achieved marked success and prestige as representatives of agricultural industry in this county, his fine landed estate of two hundred acres being situated in Giard township and constituting one of the model farmsteads of this section of the Hawkeye State. Mr. Reidel was born in Linton township, Allamakee county, Iowa, on the 1st of September, 1856, but within a short time thereafter he was brought to the old homestead farm in Giard township, Clayton county, where he has continued his residence during the long intervening period of half a century. He is a son of Charles and Catherine (Hoch) Reidel, both of whom were born in Hessen-



Darmstadt, Germany, the former on the 10th of November, 1825, and the latter on October 10th, 1824. The parents were reared and educated in their native land and there their marriage was solemnized in the year 1849. In 1852, with high aspirations and the courage begotten of earnest ambition to achieve independence and worthy prosperity, they severed the ties that bound them to the Fatherland and set forth for America. They remained for a time in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., and then came to the West and established their residence at Wheeling, Ill., where Mr. Reidel identified himself with the meat market business, in which he had gained experience in his native land. In 1855 he came to Iowa and purchased a tract of wild land in Giard township, though the family were in Allamakee county at the time of the birth of the subject of this review. Charles Reidel reclaimed his land in effective cultivation and became one of the successful farmers of Clayton county, where he ever stood exponent of sterling integrity and utmost civic loyalty. He finally retired from active labors, in the early '80s, and he passed the gracious evening of his life in the home of his son, John, of this review, where he died on the 6th of January, 1913, the wife of his youth having passed away on the 24th of December, 1874, and both having been earnest and consistent members of the religious organization designated as the Evangelical Association. The eldest of their children is Henry J., who is a resident of Albion, Marshall county; Elizabeth died in childhood, as did also Charles, Jr.; John G., of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; and Elizabeth, second of the name, is the wife of Philip Ulish, of Monona, this county. John G. Reidel is indebted to the schools of Giard township for his early educational discipline and in the meanwhile he gained equally valuable experience through his association with the work of the home farm. Soon after attaining to his legal majority he rented the old homestead, and about the year 1895 he purchased the property, to the area of which he has since added until he now has a valuable landed domain of three hundred and ten acres in this and Allamakee counties, upon which he has made many modern improvements and virtually all of which is available for effective cultivation. He also owns a half section of land in Polk county, Minnesota. As an agriculturist and stock-raiser, Mr. Reidel has exemplified not only progressiveness and energy, but has also availed himself of methods and appurtenances that are of the best modern order and that have marked him as a farmer of distinctive thrift and ability. He has become specially well and widely known throughout this section of the State, and this has resulted largely from the demands placed upon him in his capacity of public auctioneer, in which line he has gained marked success and popularity. Mr. Reidel is unwavering in his allegiance to the Republican party, is influential in community affairs and has served seven years in the office of township trustee, his long incumbency of this important position indicating the high estimate placed upon him in his home township. He is now (1916) the nominee for sheriff of Clayton county on the Republican ticket. In the village of Monona he is affiliated with the organizations of the Inde-

pendent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are attendants of the Evangelical Church. May 23, 1880, recorded the marriage of Mr. Reidel to Miss Mary K. Sautter, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of George and Frederica (Heilman) Sautter, early and honored settlers of Mendon township. Concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Reidel the following brief data are entered in conclusion of this article: Lillian is the wife of Albert C. Pingle, of Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin; Charles C., who is associated in the work and management of his father's large farm, is married and has one son, Howard T.; Mabel A. F. is the wife of Guy Walk, a prosperous farmer of Allamakee county; and John J. is a successful farmer in Monona township, he and his wife having one daughter, Marion.

**Louis O. Reiersen** owns and resides upon a portion of the large landed estate that was accumulated by his father in Clayton county, and he is one of the progressive farmers and popular citizens of the township in which he has always maintained his home and in which his circle of friends is coincident with that of his acquaintances. Mr. Reiersen was born in Marion township, this county, on the 12th of September, 1884, and is a son of Reier and Mary (Olson) Reiersen, both of whom were born and reared in this county, where their parents settled in the pioneer days, within a short time after immigrating to America from Norway. Reier L. Reiersen was identified successfully with farm enterprise in Clayton county during his entire active career, and at the time of his death, which occurred July 24, 1915, he was the owner of a well-improved landed estate of five hundred and twenty acres, in Marion township. He was a man of sterling integrity, was a loyal and liberal citizen, was a Republican in politics and was a consistent communicant of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as is also his widow, who still remains on the old home place that is endeared to her by the gracious memories and associations of the past. Of the children the subject of this review is the eldest; Mary is the wife of John O. Wall, of Marion township; and Cornelius and Ruth M. remain with their mother on the old home place. Louis, O. Reiersen gained his early education in the public schools and from his boyhood to the present time he has found as the stage of his activities the farm estate that was accumulated through the ability and energy of his honored father. On the 1st of March, 1916, he purchased one hundred and seventy-six acres of the old homestead, and to the operation of this farm, in Section 11, Marion township, he is now devoting his attention with marked progressiveness and energy and with the attending success which his broad and practical experience insures. He has erected good buildings on his individual farm and has installed on the place also a modern silo, of seventy-five tons' capacity. He is aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Republican party, is serving at the time of this writing, in 1916, as treasurer of his school district, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church. On the 20th of June, 1912, was solemnized the mar-

riage of Mr. Reierston to Miss Elvina Wall, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and their attractive home is brightened by the presence of their winsome little daughter, Marjorie Elenore, who was born January 17, 1915.

**Friederich C. H. Reimer** was a young man with very limited financial resources when he established his home in Clayton county, more than forty years ago, and the tangible results of his earnest and honest endeavors are now shown forth in his ownership of one of the well-improved and valuable farms of the county. He was born in Germany, on the 25th of April, 1841, and is a son of John and Mary (Meyer) Reimer, who passed their entire lives in their native land, the subject of this review being their only child. Friederich C. H. Reimer was reared and educated in his German fatherland and was twenty-nine years of age when he immigrated to America. He passed the first five years in the state of Illinois and then came to Iowa and established his permanent home in Clayton county. He remained about one year in the village of Elkport and then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Section 1, Lodomillo township, from which he has developed within the passing years his present valuable landed estate of two hundred and twenty acres, the entire property being improved according to the best modern ideas, with its buildings of substantial order and with everything about the place giving certain evidence of thrift and prosperity. Mr. Reimer has been distinctly one of the world's productive workers but he has not hedged himself in with the ambition for personal advancement but has been loyal and liberal as a citizen and taken deep interest in community affairs of a public nature. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, he served three years as township trustee, and for nineteen years he was retained in the position of road supervisor. He is affiliated with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and both he and his wife became communicants of the German Lutheran church when they were young, their earnest Christian faith having been shown in kindly thoughts and deeds and Mrs. Reimer having been held in affectionate regard by all who came within the sphere of her gentle influence. On the 13th of September, 1870, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Reimer to Miss Fredrica C. Daunenfeldt, who likewise was born in Germany, and the supreme loss and bereavement in his life came when his loved wife and helpmeet was summoned to the life eternal, her death having occurred on the 26th of March, 1900. Of the five children the first, William, died in childhood; Charles is a prosperous farmer of Lodomillo township and Friederich in Delaware county; Paul remains at the paternal home and has the active management of the farm, and George now lives in the state of Montana.

**William Christian Reimer**, a prominent attorney of Elkader, Iowa, was born in Clayton county July 27th, 1887, and is the son of Carl and Marie (Speicer) Reimer, both of whom were foreign born, the father a native of Mecklenburg, Germany, and the mother of Switzerland. Mr. Reimer came to America in 1865, locating in Clayton county, Iowa, but after years of successful industry has



been able to retire from active work. Mrs. Reimer passed to the other life December 19th, 1906, Mr. Reimer afterward removing to Minneapolis, where he is living retired. Seven children were born to them: Henry, a farmer of Read township; Louise, wife of William Splies of Garnavillo township; Carrie, who is married to John Fritz of Giard township; Lena, married to Walter Sadewasser, and living in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Charles and Herman, both of Volga township; and William, the subject of this sketch. Mr. Reimer's success in his profession, aside from his native ability, is due in a large measure to the years of thorough preparation he devoted to its study. In 1906 he began his course of study in Drake University, spending one year, then entering the University of Oregon, spending one year, after which he received his Bachelor degree of Law, and also took the state bar examination. At this time he was as yet under 21 years of age and not allowed, on account of his years, to practice his profession, he returned to Iowa, re-entering Drake University with his old class, receiving his Bachelor degree from the University and also taking the Iowa State Bar examination. Not satisfied with these degrees he took a post graduate course at Drake, receiving the master's degree at the end of another year, and then took the Chicago law course, receiving the degree of doctor of jurisprudence. During all the course of these studies he also took the literary course, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Literature from the Chicago Seminary of Sciences in 1910. For a year he traveled extensively over the country before coming to Elkader. He went to Elkader, Iowa, April 1, 1911, and entered upon the lucrative practice of his profession. He makes a specialty of abstract work, and is president of the Clayton County Abstract Company, which employs the card index system in the conduct of its business, thereby having a complete and absolutely reliable list of all deeds and titles of Clayton county. On December 26, 1912, Mr. Reimer led to the altar Miss Lina Stemmer, and to their marriage has been born one son, Carl, Jr. Mr. Reimer is Republican in politics and holds the office of town clerk. He is very active in the affairs of his church, the German Evangelical, serving as its secretary. He takes keen interest in automobile activities, being secretary and treasurer of the Clayton County Automobile Club.

**Carl Reinecke.**—Among the many men who have been potent in shaping the destiny and the public opinion of Clayton county, few have played a more important role than Carl Reinecke, Sr., who for 45 years was the able editor of "Der Nord Iowa Herold." Mr. Reinecke brought to his newspaper work not only a thorough technical knowledge of the printing craft gained by experience both in the old world and the new, but a ripe judgment and a wide knowledge gained as a close student of affairs during the course of his long and useful life. Carl Reinecke, Sr., was born in Calbe. a. s. Saxony, on January 29, 1840, the son of Louis and Henrietta (Stange) Reinecke, both of whom were natives of Calbe. The thorough and efficient schools of the little Saxon city furnished the foundation for the broad education which characterized him.

At the age of 15 he entered the office of the "Wochenblatt," published at Hettstaedt, Prussia, 25 miles from his early home, and there he learned the printers' trade. After an apprenticeship of five years in this city he went to Brunswick and entered a book-printing establishment, where he remained for a little more than a year. Following the custom of Germany, Mr. Reinecke perfected himself in his trade by working in different offices and along different lines; accordingly we find him next in South Germany, where he worked for six months in a printing office at Baden Baden. In 1866 Mr. Reinecke determined to avail himself of the wider opportunities offered in the new world and he emigrated to America, locating first in Freeport, Illinois. Here he entered the office of the "Anzeiger," in which he worked until the early part of 1871. The next few months found him employed in various offices and he then became aware of the opportunity to purchase the "Der Nord Iowa Herold" from the then owner, Mr. Papin. This paper had been established by Joseph Eiboeck and was one of the first newspapers in Iowa printed in the German language. While at Freeport, on June 21, 1870, Mr. Reinecke was married to Frederika Wagner, daughter of William Wagner, and it was with his young bride that he came to be a part of the social and civic life of Clayton county. Mr. Reinecke gave himself whole-heartedly to the work of his business, both in the mechanical and editorial departments. He was a man of strong conviction but of kindly and genial disposition, and his editorial utterances while virile were tempered by a sound and considerate judgment. Through his newspaper and through the example of his daily life, he has been a constant force for good in the community and he has earned the affectionate esteem of all the people of the county. Having thus lived a long life of untiring business activity and feeling the desire and necessity for cessation from his labors, Mr. Reinecke suspended the publication of the Herold, in September, 1916, preparing to spend his remaining days in quiet retirement surrounded by the love of his children and the warm regard of his many friends. To Mr. and Mrs. Carl Reinecke, Sr., were born five sons: William C., now a prominent banker at Strawberry Point, Iowa; Maximilian C., of Grand Forks, North Dakota; Alexander C., of Cleveland, Ohio; Richard C., of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Carl L., the present postmaster of Elkader. Mr. Reinecke is a splendid example of the American of German birth, who has made this country his own in very truth and who has contributed largely to the upbuilding of his community. He may well point with pride not only to his own career as a mold of public opinion, but to the careers of his splendid sons, each of whom has carved his way as a successful and useful American citizen. Carl Reinecke, Jr., who has the honor of being known as one of the youngest postmasters in Iowa in a city of the importance of Elkader, was born in that city June 14, 1891. He received his preliminary education in the grade and high schools of which the city is so justly proud, and added to this a four years' course in electrical engineering at the Iowa State College at Ames, an institution which has earned more than a nation-wide reputation as a school of science and of

agriculture. Returning to Elkader he assisted his father in the conduct of the "Der Nord Iowa Herold," and he took such active and effective part in the councils of the Democratic party that he was fittingly rewarded with the appointment as postmaster of Elkader, which office he assumed on January 27, 1916. To the conduct of this office he has given faithful and efficient service and the patrons have been highly pleased with his administration in every respect. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and active in all the social and civic life of Elkader.

**William F. Reinecke** has been a resident of Clayton county since his childhood and has here found in his maturer years ample opportunity for the bending of his energies and ability to the achievement of definite success and the winning of an honorable name. He served three consecutive terms as treasurer of Clayton county and since his retirement he has been prominently and influentially identified with banking interests in the county. He is now cashier of the Strawberry Point State Bank, and has been resourceful and progressive in the upbuilding of the substantial business controlled by this representative financial institution. He is a son of Charles and Frederica (Wagner) Reinecke, sterling citizens concerning whom specific record is given on other pages of this publication, so that a repetition of the data is not demanded in this connection. He whose name initiates this review made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools at Elkader, including those of the high school, though he left the same prior to graduation. As a youth he found employment in the country printing office of his father, and this association with newspaper work proved an effective supplement to his educational discipline. He continued his connection with his father's printing and publishing enterprise until the spring of 1898, when he formed a partnership with Vilas L. Gilje, under the firm name of Gilje & Reinecke, and they purchased the clothing stock and business of J. K. Molumby, at Elkader. Mr. Reinecke continued to give his attention to this prosperous business enterprise until 1904, when he sold his interest to his partner, as he found insistent demands upon his time and attention in the administration of the affairs of the office of county treasurer, to which he had been elected in the autumn of 1902. The most effective voucher for the efficiency and acceptability of his management of the fiscal affairs of the county is that afforded in the fact that he was re-elected county treasurer in 1903 and 1906, so that he served three consecutive terms, his retirement being essentially a matter of his own volition, as he declined again to become a candidate for the office in 1908. In the autumn of that year he was elected cashier of the Clayton County Bank at Guttenberg, and on the 1st of December of the following year he formed his present alliance as vice-president and cashier of the Strawberry Point State Bank. As a broad-minded and progressive citizen of well fortified political convictions, Mr. Reinecke has been influential in the councils of the Democratic party in Clayton county and has given effective service in behalf of the party cause. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran church,



and both he and his wife maintain affiliation with the same. In the time-honored Masonic fraternity he is identified with Strawberry Point Lodge, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons. He has received also the thirty-second degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, in Iowa Consistory, No. 2. He is affiliated also with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. May 3, 1897, recorded the marriage of Mr. Reinecke to Miss Emma Scholz, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of William H. Scholz, the subject of individual mention on other pages of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Reinecke have two children, Lorenz and Herold, whose respective ages at the time of this writing, in 1916, are seventeen and fifteen years.

**Andrew C. Reuschel** left his German Fatherland when he was a lad of thirteen years and came alone to the United States, where as a youthful stranger in a strange land he forthwith encountered distracting and none too pleasant experiences, but he had sturdy courage and self-reliance and it has been entirely through his own ability and efforts that he has achieved independence and definite prosperity. He is a skilled workman at the trade of harnessmaker and is now the proprietor of a well-equipped harness and saddlery establishment at Elkport, Clayton county, where he is known and valued as a progressive business man and loyal and upright citizen. Andrew Charles Reuschel was born in Bavaria, Germany, on the 13th of December, 1868, and his venerable parents, Arnold and Amelia (Bals) Reuschel, still reside in their native land, strong in both mental and physical powers. This sterling couple became the parents of thirteen children, concerning whom brief record may here be consistently entered: Christian and George are serving in the German army and taking part in the greatest war known in the history of the world; Hans is in the Germany navy; Schorg, Max and Otto are gallant soldiers in the army of the harassed Fatherland; Herman remains at the parental home; Ida remains in Germany and is the wife of George Gewinner; Mary is a widow and resides at Wurtzburg, Germany; Gretchen and husband are residents of Lindau, Germany; Amelia remains with her venerable parents; and the youngest child, a daughter, died in infancy. Arnold Reuschel, father of the subject of this sketch, became a skilled watchmaker and continued for many years in the active work of his trade, besides which he has been an honored and influential citizen of his community and served for some time as a member of the municipal council of the town in which he still maintains his home. Andrew C. Reuschel gained his early education in the excellent schools of his native place and at the age of thirteen years he severed the home ties and set forth for the United States, no other member of the family and no companion having accompanied him on the voyage. Upon landing in the port of New York City the lad failed to find the woman friend who was to have met him, and a business man noted his predicament and took him to a hotel. The weary boy went to bed, but about an hour later he arose and set forth to search for the missing friend. After riding on street cars in the metropolis from nine until half-past eleven o'clock in the

morning he at last arrived at the home of the friend who had kindly agreed to help him in placing himself in his adopted land. For two and one-half years he was employed in a trunk factory in Philadelphia and he then started for Clayton county, Iowa, where kinfolk of his mother resided. On arriving in the city of Chicago misadventure again became his portion, for he was put on the wrong train and landed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, instead of the desired destination in Clayton county. From the Wisconsin metropolis he came by freight train to McGregor, Clayton county, where he was refused further transportation, though his ticket designated Elkport as his destination. His worldly possession by this time had been reduced to his apparel, thirty-five cents in cash, a silver watch and a gold ring. Without providing himself with breakfast Mr. Reuschel, who was then 15 years of age, set forth on foot for the village of Guttenberg, where he arrived footsore and weary, but with undaunted courage. It is pleasing to record in this connection that he still retains in his possession the little gold ring which he wore on this journey. On arriving at Guttenberg a kindly old hotel man, Henry Eppenes, provided him with a bountiful supply of food and sent him on to his destination, at Elkport. At this latter place, which is now his home, he found employment in the harness shop of John Bals, a relative of his mother, and entered upon a practical apprenticeship to the harnessmaker's trade. After remaining with Mr. Bals for a period of seven and one-half years Mr. Reuschel went to the city of Dubuque, where he remained twelve years in the employ of a large harness and saddlery concern. After three years of service he was made foreman of the shop and during the last three years he held the position of superintendent of the entire manufacturing department of the business. In 1904 Mr. Reuschel returned to Elkport and purchased the shop and business of his former employer, Mr. Bals, and he has since conducted the enterprise most successfully, the shop building which he owns having been devoted to its present use for the long period of forty-five consecutive years and being one of the pioneer business establishments of Elkport. Mr. Reuschel has expanded the scope of his business by acting as local agent for the Demo Cream Separator Company and also as agent for the Hartford Fire Insurance Company. He became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1890 and has since given a staunch support to the cause of the Republican party. That he has secure place in popular confidence and esteem is shown by the fact that he served two terms as mayor of Elkport, besides having given efficient administration also in the offices of the township clerk, township assessor and member of the school board, of which last mentioned body he is president at the time of this writing, in 1916. He was mayor of Elkport, 1911-13. He is a zealous communicant of the German Lutheran church at Elkport and is serving as a member of its board of trustees. He is affiliated with the local organizations of Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Brotherhood of America, in each of which he holds the office of clerk. Mr. Reuschel on October 5, 1893, married Amelia Mueller, of Elkport and they have four chil-

dren, as follows: Myrtle, Herman, Amelia and Andrew, Jr.

**W. Earl Richards**, the present efficient and popular postmaster of the village of Edgewood, is likewise one of the able and representative members of the bar of his native county. He was born at Edgewood, this county, on the 27th of July, 1874, and is a son of S. T. and Cynthia (Baker) Richards, the former of whom was born in the state of New York and the latter in Vermont, their marriage having been solemnized after they had become residents of Clayton county and the father having here passed the residue of his life, the major part of his active career having been devoted to the law. He passed to the life eternal on the 14th of April, 1911, and his widow now maintains her home at Manchester, this state; they became the parents of three children, all of whom survive the honored father. W. Earl Richards is indebted to the public schools of Clayton county for his early educational discipline and in consonance with his ambitious purpose he finally entered the law department of Drake University, in the city of Des Moines, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1898 and from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He has been an influential figure in the Clayton county contingent of the Republican party and was appointed postmaster of Edgewood in 1912, the year that marked the election of a Democratic president, his term in this office expiring in June, 1916, but is still postmaster. He is the owner of a modest home at Edgewood and is a leader in the furtherance of those measures and enterprises that make for civic and material prosperity in the community. In December, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Richards to Miss Vic Ethel Smith, of Edgewood, this state. She was born and reared in Clayton county and is a daughter of John W. and Alvira (Beemer) Smith, who came to Iowa from their native state of Pennsylvania and became pioneers of Clayton county, where the father passed the residue of his life and where the venerable mother still maintains her home. Mr. and Mrs. Richards have one daughter, Maxine, who was born January 23, 1909.

**John A. Ries** holds distinctive precedence as one of the most vigorous and progressive business men of the younger generation in Clayton county and is an influential and popular citizen of the village of Clayton. He here conducts a substantial general merchandise business, has the active management of a well-equipped lumber yard, and has the further distinction of being president of the Clayton Savings Bank, of which he was the organizer, in 1915. He is a stockholder in other Clayton county corporations, is alert and enterprising as a business man and his energy and ambition are backed by the steadfast rectitude that begets objective confidence and esteem. Mr. Ries was born in Dubuque county, Iowa, on the 11th of October, 1883, and is a son of John and Katherine (Heidershede) Ries, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter of whom was born in Iowa, as a representative of one of the pioneer families of the Hawkeye state. John Ries was seven years old at the time of the family immigration to America and was reared and educated in Iowa, where he has long been a prosperous



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H. S. RITTENHOUSE

exponent of agricultural industry and been associated with other lines of business enterprise. He and his wife now maintain their home at Luxemburg and of their union have been born ten children, all of whom are living. John A. Ries gained his preliminary education in the public schools of his native state and thereafter was for some time a student in the college at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. He further prepared himself for the active affairs of business by completing an effective course in a commercial college in the city of Dubuque, and after leaving this institution he went to the city of Chicago, where he was employed as a bookkeeper for a period of four years. He then made a somewhat extended trip through South Dakota, after which, in 1912, he established his residence at Clayton, where he has since built up and successfully conducted a general store that caters to a large and constantly increasing patronage. Mr. Ries is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and has served most efficiently as a member of the village council of Clayton. His name is still enrolled on the list of eligible young bachelors in Clayton county.

**Harley S. Rittenhouse**, the genial and capable editor of the *Monona Leader*, a stirring and up-to-date Republican newspaper of Clayton county, is a native of the Badger State, having been born in Eastman, Wisconsin, May 24, 1874. His father, Harvey B. Rittenhouse is a native of Indiana, but in 1850 he removed to Crawford county, Wisconsin, and is still living at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. His mother, Regina (Kelly) Rittenhouse, who died May 9, 1908, was born in Illinois. The father was a painter by trade, but at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted for the service of his country in Company C, Sixth Wisconsin Infantry, and served for a year and a half. Their home was blest with a family of eleven children, who, in the order of their birth, are: Lilly, wife of J. W. Kimball, of Prairie du Chien, Wis.; Warren, who died in infancy; Clara, wife of William Huston of Minnesota; Minnie, wife of Henry Baab, of the same state; Rufus, deceased; Harley, with whom this sketch is concerned; Robert, who died at the age of 7 years; Delia, wife of Fred Wicks, of Minnesota; John E., whose home is in North Dakota; Maud, of Saskatchewan, Canada; Grace, the wife of Roy Sutton, who are also residents of Saskatchewan. Harley Rittenhouse is essentially a self-made man of the highest type. He attended the common schools until he reached the age of thirteen years, but at that time started out in a newspaper career, which is a liberal and thorough education in itself. Entering a printing office at Prairie du Chien, Wis., he remained for two years, sedulously applying himself to learning his chosen trade. Always seeking advancement, he was later employed at Winona, Minn., and in McGregor, Iowa. On September 19, 1895, he came to Monona and began work on the *Monona Leader*, under the kind tutelage of Colonel George H. Otis. For thirteen years he continued his service under this generous and helpful employer, with never a single misunderstanding to mar the pleasantness of the closest business and social relations. In 1905 he bought a half interest in the *Leader*, and in 1908 assumed the full responsibility



of the publication by buying the remaining interests. He has merited and retained the staunch support of a kindly public by intelligent and efficient service in the publication of that potent force in community life—a weekly newspaper. Mr. Rittenhouse has always taken the most active interest in civic matters and is now serving as town clerk, in which capacity he has assisted in the administration of the affairs of his community for eight years and is now, in 1916, president of the school board. He is a consistent advocate of Republican principles in politics. In 1908 Mr. Rittenhouse was united in marriage to Verna E. Parks of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and to them have been born four children: Parks W., Kelly S., Jane E., and Grace E. Mr. Rittenhouse is a member of Clayton Lodge No. 70, A. F. and A. M., and Monona Chapter No. 256, O. E. S.

**James H. Robbins** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth to the present, is a member of one of the well known pioneer families of the county and his personal popularity as well as his influence in community affairs is indicated by his incumbency of the office of township trustee of Mendon township, of which position he has been in tenure for a number of years, besides which he formerly served as a member of the school board of his district. He is the owner of a well improved farm of ninety-nine acres, and now gives his attention principally to the raising of small fruits and the raising of fine poultry. Mr. Robbins was born in Highland township, this county, on the 10th of March, 1869, and is a son of Francis K. and Christina (Peters) Robbins, the former of whom was born in Vermont, near the beautiful Lake Champlain, and the latter of whom was born in northern Pennsylvania. Francis K. Robbins came to Clayton county in an early day and here became a successful farmer in Highland township, where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. He whose name introduces this review gained his early education in the schools of his native township and his independent career was initiated when he rented his father's farm, to the operation of which he gave his attention five years. In the same township he then purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, and there he continued his activities until 1912, when he purchased his present eligibly located homestead, in Mendon township. He has been specially successful in the propagating of small fruits, and in the season of 1915 he produced on his farm seven thousand quarts of raspberries of the finest type and quality. He has been specially successful also in the raising of poultry of the Rhode Island Red variety, and also grows live stock on a minor scale, besides devoting a portion of his land to diversified agriculture. As previously stated, he is serving as township trustee, in which capacity he puts forth his best efforts to promote the progress and prosperity of the township, along both civic and industrial lines, his official service giving unequivocal satisfaction. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and in the same he is serving as trustee, as well as superintendent of the Sunday school. The political allegiance of Mr. Robbins is given to the Republican party, and in a fraternal way

he is affiliated with the camp of Woodmen of the World at McGregor. On the 21st of January, 1889, Mr. Robbins wedded Miss Nellie Lamph, daughter of Myron and Emily (Murdock) Lamph, of Volga, this county, and she was summoned to the life eternal on the 4th of March, 1910. The four children of this union are: Harold, who is now a resident of McGregor; Zelma, who lives at Elkader, the county seat; and Ruth and Wyman, who remain at the paternal home. In November, 1911, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Robbins to Mrs. Bell (McKellar) Smith, a daughter of Archibald McKellar, of McGregor. Mrs. Robbins had two children by her first marriage—Muriel, who now resides at Fayette, in the Iowa county of the same name, and Bessie, who is wife of Harold Robbins, eldest of the children of the subject of this review.

**James M. Robinson** has been a resident of Clayton county from boyhood and is now one of the representative farmers and prominent and honored citizens of Lodomillo township. He was born in Huron county, Ohio, on the 16th of November, 1844, and is a son of Charles and Hannah (Hare) Robinson, both of whom likewise were natives of the old Buckeye state, where the respective families were founded in the pioneer days. Charles Robinson continued his identification with farm enterprise in his native commonwealth until about the year 1866, when he came to Clayton county, Iowa, and purchased a farm in Lodomillo township, where he reclaimed his land to effective cultivation and where he achieved success of worthy and substantial order. Here he continued to reside during the remainder of his life, and his age at the time of his death, on the 30th of April, 1882, was sixty-three years, one month and six days. His widow attained to the age of sixty-nine years and was summoned to the life eternal on the 29th of September, 1890, both having been earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their children the firstborn, Sarah M., is deceased; Keziah F. is the wife of Osian Crandall, of Butler county, this state; James M., of this review, was the next in order of nativity; Sherwood is deceased; Cynthia is the widow of Holly Alger and resides in Delaware county; Ella is deceased; and the youngest child, a daughter, died in infancy. James M. Robinson gained his rudimentary education in the schools of Ohio and was a lad of about twelve years at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, where he was afforded the advantages of the district schools of Lodomillo township and where he continued his association with the work of his father's farm until he was twenty-two years of age. He then took unto himself a wife and initiated an independent career by purchasing forty acres of land from his father, this tract having been the nucleus around which he had developed his present splendidly improved landed estate of three hundred acres, in Lodomillo township, where he is successfully carrying forward his operations as a progressive agriculturist and stock-grower. He is loyal in contributing to the support of those measures and enterprises that tend to advance the social and material welfare of the community, has served effectively in the office of township trustee, is a Republican in his political proclivities, and both he and his wife hold mem-

bership in the Methodist Episcopal church. At the age of 18, Mr. Robinson enlisted in Company F, Forty-sixth Iowa Infantry, with which he served four months. He was then mustered out with his command, in the city of Dubuque. On December 3, 1866, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Robinson to Miss Cynthia Noble, who was born in Delaware county, this state, and who is a daughter of Daniel B. and Minerva (Peet) Noble, both natives of the state of New York. Mr. Noble came to Delaware county, Iowa, in 1844, and was one of the pioneers of that section of the state. He later went to Montana and engaged in mining operations, his death having occurred in that state and his wife having also been a resident of Montana at the time of her demise. They became the parents of seven children: Eunice is deceased; Mrs. Cynthia Robinson was the second child; Jane is a resident of Clayton county and is the widow of Sherwood Robinson; Worthington is deceased; Delocia is the widow of Thomas B. Creever and resides in the state of Montana; Herbert likewise is in Montana; and Flora is deceased; William D., firstborn of the children of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Robinson, died at the age of 40 years; Charles H. is associated in the management of the old home farm; Jennie M. is the wife of Arthur Welch, a clergyman of the Methodist church; Laura D. is deceased; Olive Myrtle is the wife of Adelbert Smith, of Fayette county; Levi Luther remains at the parental home, as does also Minerva M.; Merton S. is deceased; and Frederick and Worthy are the younger members of the ideal family circle of the parental home.

John Rodenberg is the owner of one of the large and well improved farms of Jefferson township and his prominence and success as a representative of agricultural and live-stock industry in his native county are the more interesting to contemplate in view of the fact that a portion of his present landed estate was the pioneer farm on which his paternal grandfather settled upon coming to this county more than sixty years ago. Mr. Rodenberg was born in Jefferson township on the 11th of August, 1872, a scion of the third generation of the family in Clayton county. He is a son of William and Annie (Kaiser) Rodenberg, both natives of Germany, the father having been born in the kingdom of Hanover and the mother in the province of Mechlenburg. William Rodenberg accompanied his parents on their immigration to America, about the year 1840, and after remaining about two years in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, the family came to Clayton county and established a home on a pioneer farm in Jefferson township. The founder of the family in this county was Christopher Rodenberg, and he and his wife here passed the residue of their lives on their old homestead, a part of the splendid rural domain now owned and occupied by their grandson, John, subject of this sketch. William Rodenberg was a boy at the time of the family immigration to the United States and was reared to manhood in Clayton county, where he availed himself of the advantages of the pioneer schools and where he eventually purchased the old homestead and became one of the representative farmers of the county. For about a decade prior to



his death he lived virtually retired, and he was one of the substantial and honored citizens of the county when he was summoned to eternal rest, on the 22d of November, 1914, his widow still remaining with her son, John, in whose home she is accorded the deepest filial solicitude, her birth having occurred November 19, 1839. She is a devout communicant of the German Lutheran church, as was also her husband, and Mr. Rodenberg was a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, his loyal interest in local affairs of a public order having been shown by his service as township trustee, as township assessor for ten years and as constable for one term. Concerning the children the following brief record is consistently entered at this juncture: August is a resident of Guttenberg, this county; Catherine is the wife of John Hill, of Honey Creek, Wis.; Mrs. Annie Hendrickson resides in Minnesota, where her husband is a prosperous farmer; Caroline is the wife of Henry Friedlein, of Guttenberg; William is a progressive farmer of Jefferson township; Emma is the wife of John Schorg, of Spencer, South Dakota; John, of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Minnie is the wife of Henry Morarend, of Jefferson township; Bessie is the wife of John Brandtman, of Crown Point, Ind.; and Sophia died in childhood. John Rodenberg is indebted to the schools of his native township for his early educational discipline and he continued his active association with the work and management of the old homestead farm until he was properly fortified for the purchasing of the property, which comprised two hundred and sixteen acres. He has since added one hundred and twenty acres to his valuable landed estate, and upon the place he has made many excellent improvements, including the erection of modern buildings. His attention is given energetically and with marked success to well ordered agriculture and to the raising of high-grade cattle and swine, with preference given to the Hereford type of cattle. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, and he is serving as school director of his district. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Guttenberg, which village is their postoffice address. On the 23d of August, 1900, Mr. Rodenberg wedded Miss Dora Lindemann, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of William and Mary Lindemann, now residing at Elkader, the county seat. Mr. and Mrs. Rodenberg have five children—Minnie, Albert, Henry and Clara and Elmer.

**Charles Roggman**, the efficient and popular cashier of the Garnavillo Savings Bank has been the incumbent of this important executive position from the time of the organization of the institution, in 1904, and his careful and progressive administration has been potent in the upbuilding of its substantial and representative business. He is another of the native sons of Clayton county who have here found ample scope and opportunity for effective and productive enterprise along normal lines of business enterprise and that his is inviolable vantage-ground in popular confidence and esteem is vouchsafed by his having been called upon to serve in various offices of public trust. One of the four survivors in a family of five children, Mr. Roggman was born on the old homestead farm of his

father, in Read township, this county, and the date of his nativity was May 26, 1870. He is a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Muel-ler) Roggman, both natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States when young folk. They were numbered among the pioneer settlers in Read township, Clayton county, where the father obtained and effected the reclamation and improvement of a good farm, though the original family home was a primitive pioneer house of the type common to the locality and period. Frederick Roggman continued as one of the successful agriculturists until his retirement, and was an honored and influential citizen of Garnavillo afterward until his death, in 1882, and his widow is now one of the venerable and revered pioneer women of Clayton county, she being a devoted communicant of the Lutheran church, as was also her husband. Charles Roggman passed the period of his childhood and early youth with his parents and in the meanwhile did not fail to profit by the advantages afforded in the public schools. At the age of eighteen years he assumed a position as clerk in one of the leading mercantile establishments at Garnavillo, and in this capacity he continued to render most effective and satisfactory service during the long period of thirteen years. He had made good use of the experience thus afforded and his business experience rendered him definitely eligible for the public office which he then assumed, that of deputy county clerk. Of this position he continued the incumbent three and one-half years, at the expiration of which, in 1904, he left Elkader, the county seat, and accepted the office of cashier of the newly organized Garnavillo Savings Bank, in which post he has since continued his able administration. He is found in tenure also, in 1916, of the office of town treasurer, and for several years has been a valued member of the Garnavillo board of education. He is the treasurer of the Garnavillo Creamery Company. He gives his political allegiance to the Republican party and both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Lutheran church of Garnavillo, of which he is a trustee. In 1897 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Roggman to Miss Anna Kregel, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county and who is a daughter of Diedrich and Margaret Kregel, who are well known citizens and honored pioneers of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Roggman became the parents of four children, of whom two are living (Arnold and Bernardine E.). Robert died at the age of four years, and the third child died in infancy.

**Andrew Roth** owns and conducts a well equipped general merchandise establishment at South Guttenberg and is consistently to be noted as one of the progressive business men and popular and valued citizens of the locality that has been his place of residence from the time of his birth. His father was one of the sterling pioneers of Clayton county, where he established his residence more than sixty years ago, and the family name has been worthily associated with civic and material development and progress in this section of the Hawkeye state. Andrew Roth was born at Guttenberg, this county, on the 20th of July, 1872, and is a son of John and Mary Magdaline (Pink) Roth, the former of whom was born and reared

in the vicinity of the historic old city of Munich, Bavaria, Germany, and the latter of whom was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, where her parents were pioneer settlers. John Roth came to the United States in 1853 and in the same year he established his residence in Jefferson township, Clayton county. There he was engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years and finally he removed to Guttenberg, where he established a brewery. He developed a prosperous business in this line and continued his residence at Guttenberg until his death, which occurred February 22, 1883, the year of his nativity having been 1841. His widow survived him by more than thirty years and was one of the revered pioneer women of Guttenberg at the time of her death, which occurred October 26, 1915, both she and her husband having been earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Of their children the eldest is Elizabeth, who is the wife of Louis Frommelt, of Guttenberg; Benjamin resides in the city of Dubuque; Andrew, of this review, and his twin sister, Mary, were the next in order of birth, and Mary died at the age of twelve years; Leonard is a resident of Guttenberg; Christina is the wife of Henry Sangling, of this place; Lena likewise remains at the old home in Guttenberg; and Annie died in infancy. Andrew Roth is indebted to the public and parochial schools of Guttenberg for his early educational discipline, and as a youth he was employed for some time in a saw mill. For six years thereafter he was engaged in the manufacturing of buttons, from shells obtained in the Mississippi river, and in 1907 he established his present thriving general merchandise business in South Guttenberg. He owns the store building, which he has remodeled and otherwise improved, and he erected his attractive and modern residence building, which is one of the fine homes of South Guttenberg. In politics Mr. Roth holds himself aloof from strict partisanship and exercises his franchise in support of the men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment. He and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, and he is affiliated with the organization of the Knights of Columbus in the city of Dubuque, besides which he holds membership in the Royal Union and the Iowa Mutual Protective Association. On the 15th of May, 1906, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Roth to Miss Mary Link, daughter of John and Mary (Rolwas) Link, of Guttenberg, and they have three daughters—Mabel, Anita and Olive.

**George J. Rothmeyer.**—In sections 28 and 29, Boardman township, is situated the well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres that is owned and operated by Mr. Rothmeyer, and as one of the popular native sons and progressive agriculturists of Clayton county, he is entitled to specific recognition in this history of the county and its people. He was born in Boardman township, this county, on the fifth of April, 1872, and is a son of Matthias and Josephine (Thein) Rothmeyer, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in Wisconsin, in which state her parents settled in the pioneer days. Matthias Rothmeyer was reared to manhood in his native land, where his father was a substantial farmer, and he was twenty-nine years of age when he severed the ties that bound him to home and fatherland and set forth to seek



his fortune in America. He was fortified by strong mind and body and by dauntless courage and determination, and thus he was well equipped for winning independence and prosperity without relying on fortuitous financial influences, his monetary resources having been but nominal when he came to America. He came to Iowa and established his permanent home in Clayton county, where he eventually became the owner of a tract of raw land, which he developed into one of the productive and well-improved farms of Boardman township. He became one of the prosperous farmers and substantial and honored citizens of that township, where he continued his earnest and well-ordered activities until his financial status justified him in retiring from the labors and responsibilities that had long engrossed his attention, and he removed to Elkader, the county seat, where he is now living in well merited comfort and prosperity, his political allegiance being given to the Democratic party and his religious faith being that of the Catholic church, of which his wife likewise was a devout communicant, her death having occurred on the 25th of August, 1914. Of their children, George J., of this review, is the eldest; the second son died in infancy; Catherine was a child at the time of her death; Clara is the wife of Barney Muench, of Elkader; Charles resides upon and has charge of his father's old homestead farm, in Boardman township; and Ella remains with her father and has supervision of the domestic economies of their pleasant home at Elkader. George J. Rothmeyer is indebted to the public schools of his native township for his early educational training, and in the meanwhile he did well his part in connection with the activities of the home farm, in the management of which he continued to be associated until he had attained to the age of twenty-six years. He then initiated his independent career as a farmer on a rented place of one hundred and eighty-five acres. On this farm he continued operations two years and for the ensuing three years he continued his activities under similar conditions on a farm of one hundred and seventy-seven acres, likewise in his native township. He had applied himself with diligence and good judgment, had carefully conserved his financial resources, and at the expiration of the three years, in 1902, he was enabled to purchase his present fine farm, to the improvement and cultivation of which he is now giving his time and attention, with characteristic vigor and good judgment, the farm being a center of progressive operations along the lines of diversified agriculture and the raising of good grades of livestock. Mr. Rothmeyer has had no ambition for the honors or emoluments of public office or to enter the arena of practical politics, but he is liberal and loyal in his civic attitude and is affiliated with the Democratic party, both he and his wife being communicants of the Catholic church. Their home is eligibly situated and receives mail service on rural route No. 2 from Elkader. November 27, 1900, was the date on which was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Rothmeyer to Miss Margaret McGee, who was both in the city of Boston, Mass., and who is a daughter of James and Mary (Fitzgerald) McGee, both natives of Ireland and both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Rothmeyer have three children, whose

names and respective dates of birth are here noted: Josephine Catherine, September 17, 1901; Mary Frances, December 31, 1904; and Karl Finton, October 12, 1906.

**John Q. Rupp** has been one of the successful exponents of agricultural industry in his native county and though he has now relegated to others much of the active work and management of the place, he still resides upon his fine homestead farm, which is situated in Monona township, on rural mail route No. 1 from the village of Monona. John Quintain Rupp was born on a farm in Girard township, and the date of his nativity was September 18, 1858, the family name having been identified with the annals of Clayton county for more than sixty years. Mr. Rupp is the only child of John Sebastian Rupp and Elizabeth (Sutter) Rupp, the former of whom was born in Germany, on the 24th of March, 1834, and the latter of whom was born at Milan, Ripley county, Indiana. John S. Rupp was about four years of age at the time of his parents' immigration to America and the family home was established in Indiana. In the old Hoosier state he was reared and educated and there he gained his early experience in connection with the practical responsibilities of a workaday world. He was for some time employed in a distillery at Lawrenceburg, Indiana, and in 1855, shortly after reaching his legal majority, he came to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county. After having been in the employ of others for a period of about three years he purchased a farm in Girard township, the land having been wild and having been reclaimed and brought under effective cultivation through his well-directed efforts. He became one of the prosperous farmers and highly esteemed citizens of Girard township and continued his residence on his homestead farm until his retirement to Monona, where he died August 3, 1891, his widow having passed to eternal rest on the 9th of December, 1915, and having remained with her only child, the subject of this review, on the home place that had been endeared to her by the associations of many years. Both she and her husband held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics he was staunchly aligned in the ranks of the Democratic party. John Q. Rupp continued his studies in the public schools of his native county until he had duly availed himself of the advantages of the Monona high school, and his independent career was initiated when he left the home farm and found employment on a neighboring farm. He did not, however, remain long in the employ of others, but rented a farm in Monona township, where his energy and ambition brought to him a more satisfactory and profitable field of enterprise. Later he came into possession of his father's old homestead, which comprises eight acres of fertile and well improved land, and which is devoted to diversified agriculture and stock growing. He has added materially to the permanent improvements on the place and has made it one of the valuable farms of his native county. A Democrat in his political allegiance, Mr. Rupp has shown a loyal interest in community affairs and has served in the offices of township trustee and township assessor. He has a secure place in the con-

fidence and goodwill of the community, is affiliated with the Monona lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church in the same village. On the 7th of January, 1886, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Rupp to Miss Emma C. Lenth, who likewise was born and reared in Clayton county, a daughter of Joseph Lenth, an honored pioneer of Monona township. Mr. and Mrs. Rupp have one child, Bernice, who was born February 19, 1888, and who is the wife of Louis Kurth, of Giard township, their one child, Vivian, having been born on the 30th of August, 1912.

**John Sabbann** was born in Mecklenberg, Germany, December 9, 1862, but came to America when he was ten years old with his parents, Gustav and Mary (Gusman) Sabbann, who were both natives of Germany. His father died in 1893, but his mother is still living in Farmersburg. He came with his parents to Clayton county in 1872, locating in Farmersburg township eleven years, then moved on a farm in Monona township, living there for fifteen years, and afterwards moving to Farmersburg township. In 1912 Mr. Sabbann left the farm and moved into town, where he became manager of the Farmersburg Co-operative Commission Company, shipping cattle and hogs. He is also manager of the Farmersburg Grain Company. He was united in marriage to Annie Buck of Clayton county, and three children were born to them: Ewalt A., Gustav, and Melinda. He takes an active interest in the political affairs of the Democratic party, to which he gives his loyal support, and has served on the city council. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Modern Woodmen, M. B. A., and of the Lutheran church.

**Xavier Schaefer**s came to Clayton county in the earlier sixties and through his resourceful and energetic activities as a farmer and stock grower he laid the foundation of large and worthy success. He was one of the extensive landholders of this section of Iowa at the time of his death, and his widow still resides on the fine old homestead, which is situated in section 6, Garnavillo township, and which is one of the splendidly improved and valuable landed estates of the county. Here Mr. Schaefer wedded the young woman who proved his devoted companion and helpmeet until he passed from the stage of life's mortal endeavors, and they reared an exceptionally large family of children, of whom nine survive the honored father; sterling citizens who have well upheld the high prestige of the family name. Xavier Schaefer was born and reared in Germany and was seventy-five years of age at the time of his death, which occurred on the 10th of February, 1910. His remains rest in the consecrated ground of the Catholic cemetery at Garnavillo and his memory is honored in the county that long represented his home and the stage of his earnest endeavors, all of which were governed by the highest principles of integrity and fairness. Mr. Schaefer was a youth of nineteen years when he severed the ties that bound him to his native land and set forth to win for himself a position of independence and prosperity in the United States. He remained for a time in the city of Buffalo, New York, and then went to Minnesota, where he found employment for a time and where he finally





XAVIER SCHAEFFERS AND WIFE

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took up a homestead claim and initiated the development of a pioneer farm. On this claim he lived several years, his habitation having been a primitive log cabin, and he finally came to Iowa and established his residence in Clayton county. Here his marriage was solemnized in 1865, and he then purchased the nucleus of the extensive landed estate that is still held by the family and upon which his widow still resides, the old home being endeared to her by the hallowed memories and associations of the past. At the time of his demise, Mr. Schaefer was the owner not only of seven hundred and ninety-four acres of valuable Iowa land but also of three hundred and twenty acres in the Canadian northwest and a residence and block of buildings in the village of Garnavillo. His civic loyalty and liberality were ever of insistent order, his political support was given to the Democratic party and he was an earnest communicant of the Catholic church, as is also his widow. On the 21st of February, 1865, Mr. Schaefer wedded Miss Anna Mary Berns, who was born in Germany and who was but six months old at the time of the family immigration to America. She is a daughter of Henry and Anna M. (Knuber) Berns, who came to this country in 1847 and who were numbered among the very early settlers of Clayton county. The father obtained a tract of wild land in Jefferson township, and the original family domicile was a rude log house, the first barns on the place being mere sheds with straw roofs, though clapboard roofs were supplied as soon as possible. Mr. Berns became one of the prosperous farmers and valued citizens of the county and here both he and his wife passed the residue of their lives, both having been devout communicants of the Catholic church. Of their eight children four are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer became the parents of a fine family of fourteen children, of whom nine are living. The eldest of the number is Henry T., of Emery, S. D.; Mary H. is the wife of Henry Berns, a resident of Clayton county; Mary A. is the wife of Henry Hagermann, and they now reside in California; Xavier H. remains in his native county; Herman is deceased; Matilda R. is deceased; Theodore P., Joseph H., and Wilhelmina are now residents of the state of South Dakota; George F. and Louis are deceased; Guido has established his home in the state of Montana; Jacob and Regina C. are deceased; and Regina H. remains with her widowed mother. Mrs. Schaefer retains the finest mental and physical vigor and with much circumspection and ability, gives her general supervision to the affairs of the home farm and to her other large and important financial interests. She is active and liberal in the supporting of the various features of work in the Catholic church at Garnavillo, has a host of friends in the county that has been her home from childhood and has the distinction not only of having carefully reared her large family of children, all of whom accord to her the deepest filial solicitude, but also of having twenty-six grandchildren and one great-grandchild at the time of this writing, in 1916—a truly remarkable record and one in which this veritable “mother in Israel” takes great pride.



Henry Schlake is consistently to be designated as one of the substantial and influential citizens of his native county and is a representative of one of its honored pioneer families, the name which he bears having been identified most worthily with the history of Clayton county for fully seventy years. He has substantial and varied capitalistic interests, not the least of which are those involved in the ownership of the splendid old homestead farm in Garnavillo township, on which he was born, the date of his nativity having been June 22, 1858. He is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth Schlake, who were born and reared in Germany, where their marriage was solemnized and whence they immigrated to America in 1845. Shortly after their arrival in the land of their adoption they came to Iowa and numbered themselves among the early pioneer settlers of Clayton county. Here Joseph Schlake obtained a tract of wild land, in what is now Garnavillo township, and for several years thereafter he and his family resided in a primitive log house of the true pioneer type. Energy and earnest and honest endeavor brought to Mr. Schlake increasing prosperity with the passing years, and he eventually became the owner of one of the large and finely improved landed estates of the county, all of this having been incidental to his development of the original pioneer farm on which he located when this section of the state was still thinly populated and on the virtual frontier. This sterling pioneer couple continued to reside in Clayton county until their death, when well advanced in years, and their names merit enduring place on the roll of those worthy citizens who contributed to the development of the resources of and furthered the industrial and civic upbuilding of the county. Of the four children the subject of this review is the elder of the two now living, and his sister, Louisa, is the wife of Charles F. Schmidt, their home being at Elkader, the county seat. Henry Schlake was reared under the conditions that obtained in the pioneer period of Clayton county history, and he soon gained the fellowship with honest toil that has made him enduringly appreciative of its dignity and value. He made good use also of the advantages afforded in the common schools of the locality and period and after attaining to his legal majority he rented the old homestead farm for a period of four years, at the expiration of which he purchased the property, his valuable landed estate now comprising three hundred and seventy-four acres, in sections 21 and 28, Garnavillo township. He added greatly to the improvements on this excellent demesne and continued to reside upon the farm, with status as one of the most progressive agriculturists and stock growers of the county, until 1910, when he removed with his family to the village of Garnavillo, where he has since lived virtually retired, save that he continues to give a general supervision to his farm and his other important capitalistic interests. Several years ago Mr. Schlake purchased thirty-two acres of land lying within the corporate limits of the village of Garnavillo, and upon this property he has made excellent improvements, including the erection of a number of houses in addition to his own modern residence, which is one of the fine homes of the county. He is a director in the Garnavillo

Savings Bank, of which he was one of the organizers, and is president of the Live Stock Commission Company of Clayton county. His political allegiance is given loyally and intelligently to the Republican party and he is serving in 1916 as trustee of Garnavillo township, besides having served several years as a member of the school board. In the year 1882 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Schlake to Miss Elizabeth Wilker, who was born in Garnavillo township, and who is a daughter of Clamer and Anna M. (Kurpenberg) Wilker, the other two surviving children being Fred and John Wilker, both still residents of Clayton county. On coming from their German Fatherland to the United States, in 1849, the parents of Mrs. Schlake established their residence in Ohio, but about a year later they became pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, where they passed the remainder of their lives and where the father was long numbered among the successful farmers of Garnavillo township. In conclusion is entered brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Schlake: Ida is the wife of Henry D. Backhaus of Worth county, Iowa; and Anna the wife of Henry J. Schroeder, of this county; John J. of Guttenburg; Albert has the active management of the old homestead farm; Herman C. is a farmer of Farmersburg township; Alma is the wife of Arthur Hamann, of this county; Ruth, Leroy, Nettie and Victor remain at the parental home; and Arthur died at the age of twenty-one years.

**John C. Schmalfeld** merits definite recognition in this history not only by reason of his prominence and influence as one of the extensive and substantial landholders and representative farmers of Clayton county, but also by reason of being a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of the county. He is the only surviving member of a family of five children and there came to him as a gracious heritage the fine homestead farm upon which he has lived from the time of his birth to the present day. He is the owner of a finely improved landed estate of two hundred and ninety acres, situated in Sections 16, 17 and 20, Farmersburg township, and he keeps his fine domain up to the most approved standard in all things pertaining to modern and scientific agriculture and stock-growing, with the result that he is essentially one of the representative yeomen of his native county and a leader in the sphere of industrial enterprise in which his productive activities have always been centered. On the farm homestead which is his present place of residence Mr. Schmalfeld was born on the 10th of April, 1861, and, as before stated, he is the only survivor of a family of five children. He is a son of John and Mary (Wendt) Schmalfeld, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, where their marriage was solemnized and where they continued their residence until 1851, when they immigrated to America and numbered themselves among the earliest settlers of Clayton county, Iowa. Here the father obtained a tract of wild land and set to himself the arduous task of reclaiming the same into a productive farm. He and his youthful wife lived up to the full tension of pioneer hardships and labors and the passing years rewarded their earnest endeavors with well merited success. Their first dwelling on the farm now owned by their son was a

primitive structure with a straw roof, and this they occupied until they were able to provide a more fitting habitation. They were loyal, sincere, industrious and religious folk, zealous as communicants of the Lutheran church, and they so ordered their lives as to command the unqualified confidence and good will of all with whom they came in contact. They were venerable and honored pioneer citizens of the county at the time of their death and remained on their old homestead farm until the close of their long and useful lives. John C. Schmalfelt, the immediate subject of this review, found the period of his childhood and youth compassed by the conditions and influences of the pioneer farm and early began to assist in its work and management. After he had made good use of the advantages afforded in the common schools of the locality and period he began to assume more and more of the responsibilities and toil in connection with the home farm, and as the sole surviving heir he came into possession of the entire property after the death of his honored parents. He has erected fine buildings on his extensive and well improved landed estate and is not only known as a progressive and successful agriculturist but also has won special prominence as a breeder and grower of short-horn cattle of the best type. He gives his support to those measures and projects that tend to advance the general welfare of the community, but has held no public office save that of member of the school board of his district, of which body he served as president for several years. His political allegiance is given unreservedly to the Democratic party and he and his wife are earnest communicants and liberal supporters of the Lutheran church at Clayton Center. November 25, 1887, recorded the marriage of Mr. Schmalfeld to Miss Elise Henning, who was born and reared in this county, Garnavillo township, and who is one of the four surviving members of a family of twelve children. Her parents, August and Catherine (Schultz) Henning, immigrated from Germany to the United States in the early '50s and became substantial and honored pioneers of Garnavillo township, Clayton county, where the father reclaimed and developed the fine farm upon which he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Schmalfeld became the parents of three children, of whom the firstborn, Alta M., died at the age of three years. The surviving children, Arno and Elmer, and an adopted child born August 4, 1902, Alice M. Schmalfeld, still remain at the parental home and give their quota of aid in the work of the splendid old farmstead where they are representatives of the third generation of the family in Clayton county.

**William J. Schmidt** is consistently to be designated as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of his native county and is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and seventy-eight acres, eligibly situated in Section 35, Wagner township, about one-half mile distant from the village of St. Olaf, which is his postoffice address, and from which he receives mail service on rural route No. 2. Mr. Schmidt was born at Garnavillo, this county, on the 21st of September, 1864, and is a representative of a sterling pioneer family of this section of the state. He is a son



of John and Lena (Gumtow) Schmidt, both natives of Germany and both of whom came to America when young folk. their marriage having been solemnized in Iowa. In the year 1859 John Schmidt came to Clayton county and established his residence in the village of Garnavillo. After having been here engaged in the employ of others for a period of seven years, he purchased a tract of eighty acres in Wagner township, where he instituted the development of a farm—a work in which he succeeded through energy and good management, so that he won definite independence and prosperity through his own well ordered efforts. He was a man of unassuming worth of character, straightforward and sincere in all of the relations of life, and he commanded the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. This honored pioneer passed the closing years of his life in the home of his son William J., of this review, and he was seventy-two years of age at the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1895, his devoted wife having been sixty-two years old when she was summoned to eternal rest, and both having been devout communicants of the Lutheran church. They became the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the youngest: Mary, who maintains her home at Farmersburg, is the widow of Rudolph Engelhardt; Reika is the wife of Henry Engelhardt, a prosperous farmer in Wagner township; and Minnie died when about eight years of age. William J. Schmidt passed the period of his youth on the home farm, and in the meanwhile did ample justice to the advantages afforded him in the local schools. At the age of twenty-two years he purchased a farm of eighty acres, in Wagner township, and for five years thereafter he and his father were associated in the operation of the two farms, comprising a total of one hundred and sixty acres. They then sold the respective homesteads and William J. purchased his present farm of one hundred and seventy-eight acres, and later added forty-five acres to the farm, on which he has made substantial improvements and which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, his attention being given to diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of live stock. Mr. Schmidt has been content to devote himself closely to his farming operations and incidental business affairs, and thus has had no inclination to enter the arena of practical politics or to seek public office, though he gives a staunch allegiance to the Democratic party and is liberal and public-spirited as a citizen. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Clayton Center Lutheran church. On the 6th of January, 1889, Mr. Schmidt wedded Miss Sophie Carmine, and they became the parents of four children—Arthur, who resides in Wagner township and is engaged in farming; John, who met a tragic death in the spring of 1915, a bridge breaking way when he was crossing the same with a team and his skull being so crushed as to cause practically instant death; Bertha is the wife of Herman Schlager, of Farmersburg township; and Amanda remains at the parental home.

**John H. Schmitt.**—The summer of the year 1916 recorded a half century of continuous residence of Mr. Schmitt in Clayton county, and in both the paternal and maternal lines he is a repre-

sentative of sterling pioneer stock in this now progressive and opulent section of the Hawkeye State. In his native county he is fully upholding the high prestige of a family name that has been worthily linked with the history of the county for nearly sixty years and that has been closely and effectively identified with the civic and industrial development that has marked the passing years. Mr. Schmitt is essentially one of the wideawake and influential farmers and men of affairs in Giard township, where he was born on the 18th of July, 1866. He is the eldest of the family of ten children born to William M. and Henrietta (Hoch) Schmitt, the former of whom was born in the Province of Alsace, France, now a part of German territory, the date of his nativity having been September 15, 1836, and the latter of whom was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, on the 5th of April, 1845. The father was reared and educated in his native province and in 1857, about the time of attaining to his majority, he set forth to seek his fortunes in America, to which country he came with but nominal financial resources but with the fullest measure of energy and worthy ambition. He remained a few months at Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and, in 1858, came to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county. In Giard township he purchased eighty acres of land and set himself vigorously to its reclamation and general improvement. He became one of the substantial and prosperous farmers of the township, loyal and liberal in his civic attitude, and he continued his active identification with agricultural pursuits on his well improved homestead until 1903, since which time he has lived virtually retired. He is a Republican in his political adherence and both he and his wife are earnest members of the Evangelical Church at Watson, of which he is serving as treasurer. On the 10th of November, 1862, was solemnized the marriage of William M. Schmitt to Miss Henrietta Hoch, who was a girl at the time of her parents' immigration from Germany to America and who is a daughter of the late Jacob and Elizabeth Hoch, sterling pioneers of Giard township. As previously noted, John H. Schmitt of this review is the eldest in a family of ten children; William is deceased; Henry is a prosperous farmer in Giard township, as is also Frank, who remains on the old homestead farm with his venerable parents; Mary is deceased; Clara is the wife of Edward Hupfer, of Monona township; Elizabeth is the wife of Albert Schlitter, of Allamakee county; Marie is the wife of Reinhardt Haberrichter, of Laporte City, Blackhawk county; George is a progressive agriculturist near Salem, South Dakota; and Fred is now a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota. John H. Schmitt was not denied in his boyhood and youth a due amount of practical experience in connection with the work of the home farm, and in the meanwhile he profited also by the opportunities that were afforded him in the schools of his native township. As a youth of twenty-four years he established his residence in the village of McGregor, where he served a virtual apprenticeship to the trade of butcher and where he continued his association with the meat-market business until 1893, when he resumed his association with



the basic industry of agriculture, by purchasing a farm of seventy-four acres in Giard township. He later added a contiguous tract of fifty acres to his farm, which he has brought to a high state of productiveness and made one of the model places of the county, with improvements of the best modern type, and with the careful and effective management that betokens his spirit of thrift. He has achieved substantial financial success and has expanded his field of activities by becoming a leading stockholder in the creamery company at Monona, of which corporation he is president, besides which he is an interested principal and a director of the Farmers' Commission Company, in the same village. Mr. Schmitt is emphatically one of the leaders in community affairs in Giard township, where he is serving, in 1916, as township trustee and also as president of the school board of his district. At Monona he is affiliated with the organizations of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masonic fraternity and the Woodmen of the World, the while both he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the same village. In politics he is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies of the Republican party and he keeps well informed concerning the questions and issues of the hour. His civic loyalty is of the same assured type as was that which prompted his honored father to go forth in defense of the Union when the Civil war was precipitated, William M. Schmitt having enlisted, on the 15th of August, 1862, as a member of Company H, Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he served three years, or until the close of the war, with a record of faithful and gallant work as a participant in numerous engagements, and as one who lived up fully to the tension of the great struggle that perpetuated the national integrity. In later years he has shown his continued interest in his old comrades in arms by maintaining active and appreciative affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. On the 15th of March, 1893, was solemnized the marriage of John H. Schmitt to Miss Emma Gebhardt, daughter of John and Katherine (Young) Gebhardt, of McGregor, this county, and they have six children, all of whom remain members of the home circle, namely: Elsie G., Charlotte S., Marie M., William J., Irma G. and Helen H. The family is one of unqualified popularity in the social life of the community and the attractive home is known for its generous hospitality.

**Conrad Schnepf** has proved himself possessed of those attributes of character that make possible the achieving of large and worthy success and that beget unqualified popular confidence and esteem. He has been a resident of Iowa since his early youth, has been industrious, energetic and purposeful, and has won a secure place as one of the representative business men and influential citizens of Clayton county. When a mere lad he became virtually dependent upon his own resources, and he pressed forward bravely and earnestly toward the goal of success, with the result that he has been in the most significant sense the architect of his own fortunes. In the village of Garber he owns and controls a large and



prosperous general merchandise business and he is one of the most liberal and influential citizens of the town, of which he became the mayor at the time of its incorporation and of which office he continued the efficient and honored incumbent for the long period of eleven years, the municipal government having been carefully handled under his administration and his progressive policies having redounded to the civic and material advancement of the village. Mr. Schnepf was born in Germany, on the 31st day of May, 1857, and is a son of Henry and Magdalena (Deckerd) Schnepf, the former of whom passed his entire life in Germany, Adam, the eldest of the children, immigrated to the United States a short time after the death of the father, and later his mother brought her other children and also her venerable and widowed mother to America, the family home being established at Dubuque, Iowa, and Mr. Schnepf passed the remainder of her life in this state. She later married Chas. Schecker. The eldest son, first of the family in America, is now deceased; Henry is a resident of California; Susana is deceased; and Conrad, of this review, is the youngest of the number. Conrad Schnepf was about eight years of age when he accompanied his widowed mother on her immigration to the United States, and his early educational advantages were limited, as he started to make his own way in the world when he was only twelve years of age. He devoted about four years to farm work, in Clayton county, and for three years thereafter was in the employ of A. C. Tiede & Company, engaged in the mercantile business at Elkport, this county. He gave a similar period of service in the general merchandise establishment of John Garber & Sons, in the village of East Elkport, which is now incorporated as the village of Garber. Mr. Schnepf initiated his independent career in the mercantile business by renting the store which he now owns, and one year later he purchased the stock and business. At Garber he has developed a substantial and representative general merchandise business, and his energy and good management have brought to him unequivocal prosperity, the while he has maintained inviolable place in popular confidence and esteem. His business career has not been free from adverse conditions, as may be realized when it is stated that in 1891 and again in 1893 he lost nearly his entire stock of merchandise by fire. He is not of the timber to be baffled by obstacles or misfortunes, and he has triumphed over opposing forces, staunchly faced the exigencies that have come before him and has won success that is worthy of its name. All things touching the community welfare have been of vital interest to Mr. Schnepf and he has been a leader in civic and business affairs in the thriving little village of which he was elected the first mayor, as previously stated in this context. He not only guided the municipal government of Garber for eleven years, but his service in the office of postmaster has covered a total of about a quarter of a century, though his incumbency has not been of consecutive order. He has served with characteristic efficiency also as a member of the board of education of his home village, and in politics he is found arrayed as a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Modern Brotherhood of America and the I. O. O. F., and he and his wife are zealous communicants of the German Lutheran church. In the year 1881 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Schnepf to Miss Malinda Steifel, who was born in the state of Pennsylvania and who is a daughter of Christian and Mary (Miller) Steifel. Mrs. Schnepf was the first in order of birth in a family of six daughters and was about three years of age at the time of her parents' removal from the old Keystone state to Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Schnepf became the parents of seven children: Henry is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; Edward is deceased; Alma remains at the parental home; Lizzie is the wife of Harold Gayner, of Oelwein, Fayette county, and has two children, George and Carl; Arthur, who is associated with his father's business, married Miss Laura Waterman and they have one child, Virginia; Elsie is a graduate nurse from the Iowa City school; and George is attending school at Vinton, this state, a school for the blind, he having met with an accident at the age of four years that left him totally blind.

**Henry C. Schnepf** is one of the representative business men of the younger generation in his native county, and is giving most efficient service in the position of cashier of the Farmers' Savings Bank of Garber. He was born at Garber, Clayton county, on the 25th of January, 1882, and is a son of Conrad Schnepf, an honored and influential citizen of whom specific mention is made on other pages of this publication. After making good use of the advantages afforded in the excellent public schools of Clayton county, Henry C. Schnepf further fortified himself by completing an effective course in a business college in the city of La Crosse, Wis. For the ensuing ten years he served as bookkeeper in his father's mercantile establishment, at Garber, and in 1909 he became one of the organizers of the Farmers' Savings Bank of this village, of which he has since been the able and popular cashier. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, including the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and is also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he passed various official chairs in the lodge at Elkport. In 1904 Mr. Schnepf wedded Miss Ina Purman, who was born and reared in this county, a daughter of the late Andrew and Marinda Purman. Mrs. Schnepf was summoned to the life eternal on the 14th of June, 1911, and is survived by one son, Kenneth K., who was born September 14, 1905. On the 15th of April, 1914, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Schnepf to Miss Hattie McDonald, who likewise was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of George and Ella (Schmidt) McDonald, the latter of whom is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Schnepf are popular factors in the social life of their home community and are representatives of old and honored families of Clayton county.

**Sigmund Schoentag** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth, was but eleven years of age when he became

doubly orphaned, and he has from that time to the present been dependent upon his own resources. That he has made good use of his ability and energy is shown in his present status as one of the substantial and prosperous farmers of his native county and as a citizen who has the unqualified confidence and good will of the community in which he has made his way to the goal of worthy success. He was born in Cass township, this county, on the 30th of September, 1873, and is a son of Julius and Anna (Wolf) Schoentag, who were born and reared in Germany, whence they came to the United States about the year 1870, where their marriage was solemnized; they established their home at Strawberry Point, Clayton county, and here they passed the remainder of their lives, both having passed away when their only surviving child, the subject of this review, was a mere boy, the younger of the two children having been Magdalena, who died in infancy. Owing to being deprived of the care and guidance of his parents when he was a boy, Sigmund Schoentag had in his youth only such educational advantages as were afforded in the public schools, but the discipline thus gained proved the basis of the broader education which he has since received under the direction of that wise head-master, Experience. As a youth he served a practical apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, and he followed the work of the same for seven years, having become a successful builder. He finally abandoned his trade as a vocation and purchased his present farm, in section 20, Cass township, where he now has a well improved and admirably managed place of one hundred and twenty acres. He brought to bear his mechanical ability by personally erecting the fine residence and other excellent farm buildings on the homestead, and in connection with his thrift and progressiveness in the field of diversified agriculture he has given special attention to dairy business as a part of his farm enterprise. He is loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities, is a Democrat in politics but has had no ambition for public office of any kind. He and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Strawberry Point, which village is their post-office address. In 1894 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Schoentag to Miss Lena Stapel, who was born and reared in this county, a daughter of John and Carolina (Shank) Stapel, who came to America from their native Germany about 1870, and who established their home in Strawberry Point, where Mrs. Stapel has continued to reside since the death of her honored husband. Mr. and Mrs. Schoentag have seven children, namely: Anna M., Alma R., Julius P., Harold J., Alice F., Gertrude L., and Esther F. All of the children remain at the parental home except the eldest daughter, Anna M., who is the wife of Lloyd Davis, a young farmer whose residence is near Morristown, Minn.

**Otto F. Scholz** is now one of the representative business men of his native village of Guttenberg, where he was born February 21, 1889, and here he owns and conducts a specially attractive and well-equipped drug store, the same receiving a substantial and appreciative supporting patronage. Mr. Scholz is a son of Charles W. and Helena (Ulrich) Scholz, who have long been numbered among



the sterling and honored citizens of Clayton county, though both were born in Germany. The subject of this review is the youngest in a fine family of ten children, and concerning the others the following brief record is consistently entered at this juncture: Herman is a resident of the city of Dubuque; Anna is the wife of George Deuce, of Chicago, Ill.; Charles still remains at Guttenberg; William is a resident of Cresco, Howard county; Robert maintains his home at Guttenberg; Paulina is the wife of Otto Aulwes, of Hannibal, Wis.; George resides at Alta Vista, Iowa; Fred remains at Guttenberg; and Henry now lives at Madison, Wis. Otto F. Scholz continued his studies in the public schools of Guttenberg until he had duly profited by the advantages of the high school, and in February, 1913, he was graduated in the Babcock Institution of Pharmacy, in the city of Des Moines. Thereafter he was employed as clerk and pharmacist in a drug store in the city of Dubuque until August, 1915, when he purchased the drug store and business of C. F. Stagg, of Guttenberg, where he has since continued to conduct a prosperous enterprise in the handling of drugs, medicines, toilet articles, rubber goods, cameras and all other general lines customarily found in a first-class drug store. As a skilled and registered pharmacist he gives special attention to the careful compounding of physicians' prescriptions, and in this department his establishment has high reputation. Mr. Scholz gives his political allegiance to the Republican party, is progressive and public-spirited as a citizen, and he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. June 21, 1913, recorded the marriage of Mr. Scholz to Miss Edna Hedgemann, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Frederick N. and Marcia (Jenkins) Hedgemann, of Guttenberg. Mr. and Mrs. Scholz have a little daughter, Helene Marcia, who was born September 29, 1914, and who lends definite charm to their pleasant and hospitable home.

**Fred C. Schultz** is junior member of the firm of Lindroth & Schultz, which owns and conducts a thoroughly modern automobile garage in the village of Luana, and is one of the aggressive and enterprising young business men of Clayton county. The firm erected for the proper accommodation of its substantial business the garage building which it occupies and which has the best of facilities throughout, including a well-equipped repair department, and here is maintained by the concern the local agency for the celebrated Studebaker and Chevrelot automobiles. Of the senior member of the firm, George F. Lindroth, is made the subject of individual mention on other pages of this work. Mr. Schultz was born in Grand Meadow township, this county, on the 2d of September, 1891, and is a son of Charles and Mary (Krochman) Schultz, both natives of Germany and both young folk when they came to the United States, their marriage having been solemnized in Iowa. As a young man Charles Schultz severed the ties that bound him to home and Fatherland and set forth, with all of courage and ambition, to seek his fortunes in America. Upon coming to Clayton county he purchased a farm in Grand Meadow township, where he caused the earth to bring forth its increase from year to year and

where his energy and good management won to him substantial prosperity. He continued to reside on his homestead, as one of the representative farmers and honored citizens of Grand Meadow township until his death, which occurred December 3, 1910, and his widow passed to the life eternal on the 2d of January, 1914, both having been communicants of the German Lutheran church. He was a Democrat in his political proclivities, was influential in community affairs and served with marked efficiency and acceptability in the office of township trustee. Of the children, Henry and William reside at Luana; Ida remains on the old homestead place, as do also the younger children, with the exception of the subject of this sketch, who was the fifth in order of birth. The names of the children still residing at the old homestead are as follows: Carl, Louis, Emil and Harold. Fred C. Schultz early began to contribute his quota to the work of the home farm and in the meanwhile he did not fail to take proper advantage of the privileges afforded him in the local schools. He continued his association with the work and management of the old homestead until 1916, in the spring of which year he established his residence at Luana and entered into partnership with Mr. Lindroth in the conducting of the garage and automobile business. He is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, is a communicant of the Lutheran church, and is known as one of the reliable and vigorous young business men of his native county, where he has found ample opportunity for successful endeavor.

**Realto O. Schumacher**, editor of the Garnavillo Tribune, and one of the most progressive citizens of that substantial and beautiful little city, was born in Garnavillo, July 4, 1881, and is the son of John Fred and Pauline Schumacher. He was educated in the public schools of his native city, and received an excellent business education at the Bayless Business College, at Dubuque. For a number of years he assisted his father in the hotel business, which the latter conducted from 1880 to 1905. He then spent a few months in New Albin, Iowa, assisting Mr. F. J. Putz in removing a stock of merchandise from that village to Garnavillo. In February, 1910, Mr. Schumacher founded the Garnavillo Tribune, which newspaper he has since conducted with great success, having made it the exponent of all that is helpful to the welfare of Garnavillo and the community surrounding. In connection with the newspaper he has a finely equipped job office and is fully able to meet all demands for high grade commercial printing. In 1901 he became interested in the Garnavillo Telephone Company, and, with the exception of one year, has been the secretary and general manager since its incorporation, and by his diligent and intelligent efforts he has maintained a service which would be a credit to a much larger community. His ability has been recognized by his fellow townsmen, in that he has been elected as town clerk, serving four years and for nine years he has served as secretary of the board of education. In personal politics, Mr. Schumacher is an adherent of the principles of the Democratic party, but he conducts the Tribune as a strictly neutral newspaper, aiming to reflect all the local events of

the busy little city and not to influence the political judgment of the people. In this he has been singularly successful and the Tribune has the friendship and support of all, regardless of political affiliations. Socially Mr. Schumacher is interested in all the life of the community and he is a respected member of Garnavillo Lodge No. 90, A. F. & A. M., and also of the Modern Brotherhood of America, and the Garnavillo Social Turnverein. He is a consistent member of St. Paul's Lutheran church of Garnavillo. Mr. Schumacher has been particularly happy in his home life. On June 15, 1909, he was married to Miss Clara M. Roebken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Roebken of Garnavillo, and their home has been brightened by the advent of two charming daughters, Margery, aged three, and Winifred, aged eighteen months.

**William Schumacher** has gained through his own ability and well-ordered efforts a secure place as one of the representative business men and honored and influential citizens of Garnavillo, and is another of the sterling contributions that the great empire of Germany has made to Clayton county. He was born in Germany on the 4th of April, 1850, and is a son of Andrew and Christina Schumacher, both of whom passed their entire lives in Germany and of whose five children only two are now living. William Schumacher is indebted to the excellent schools of his native land for his early educational discipline and at the age of fourteen years he there entered upon an active apprenticeship to the tinner's trade, in which he became a skilled workman. In 1867, after the completion of his thorough apprenticeship, his ambition and self-reliance led him to come to the United States, where he felt assured better opportunities would be afforded him for gaining definite independence and prosperity through his own endeavors. Soon after landing in the port of New York City he made his way to Wisconsin, where he found employment at his trade and where he continued his residence three years. He then, in 1870, came to Iowa and established his permanent home in Clayton county. For the first year he was employed at his trade in the village of Guttenberg, and during the ensuing year he was similarly engaged at Garnavillo. Here, in 1873, he showed his resourcefulness and well-ordered ambition by independently engaging in the hardware business upon a modest scale, commensurate with his financial resources. During the long intervening years he has continued his activities in this business and fair and honorable dealings, progressive policies and effective service have enabled him to build up a large and substantial business and to achieve well-merited success. His establishment, which he owns, is one of the excellent business buildings of Garnavillo and his is one of the best equipped hardware stores in the county, with all departments kept up to the best modern standard, including that devoted to agricultural implements and machinery. In addition to his store building Mr. Schumacher owns his attractive residence property in Garnavillo and also some village property in Buchanan county. He is one of the loyal and valued citizens of Clayton county, has served for the past thirty-five years as treasurer of the board of education and his political allegiance is given to the Demo-



cratic party. In the thriving village that is now his home the marriage of Mr. Schumacher to Miss Rosina Waleser, a native of Pennsylvania, was solemnized in the year 1875, and of their two children the first born, William F. is his father's partner in business and is also a director of the Farmers' State Bank of Garnavillo; the other child died in infancy.

**H. A. Schurtzman** is one of the representative business men and popular citizens of North McGregor, where he has long conducted a well-equipped meat market and where he controls a substantial business, besides being the owner of one of the well improved farms of Clayton county, the same being situated in Mendon township and comprising one hundred and eighty-two acres. Mr. Schurtzman was born near Mineral Point, Iowa county, Wis., on the 4th of October, 1858, and is a son of Charles and Mary S. Schurtzman, both natives of Germany. Upon his immigration to the United States, Charles Schurtzman became a pioneer settler near Mineral Point, Iowa county, Wis., where he became actively identified with agricultural pursuits. When the Civil war was precipitated he promptly signalized his loyalty to the land of his adoption by tendering his services in defense of the Union. He enlisted in one of the regiments of volunteer infantry raised in Wisconsin, and he sacrificed his life in the cause, as he was killed in battle, leaving his widow to assume the care of their six children, all of whom are living, namely: Augusta, who is married and resides in the city of Chicago; Mary, who is a resident of Dubuque, Iowa; H. A., who is the immediate subject of this sketch; Adolph, who now maintains his home at Waterloo, Iowa; Alfred, who is a resident of Chicago; and Charles, who is located in Skagway, Alaska. The mother contracted a second marriage, by becoming the wife of William Pohl, and their one child, Edward, is a resident of the city of Dubuque. H. A. Schurtzman gained his early education in the public schools and was about nine years of age when he came to Iowa. In the city of Dubuque he served a thorough apprenticeship to the butcher's trade, becoming there connected with the meat market business when he was a lad of fifteen years and giving four years to acquiring a thorough knowledge of all details of this line of enterprise. In 1881 he came to Clayton county and established his residence at North McGregor, where he engaged in buying and shipping fish, and for nearly a quarter of a century he has conducted the leading meat markets of the village, with a discernment and technical ability that have resulted in a high standard of service and have retained to him a large and representative patronage. He has never sought to enter the arena of political activity, but accords a staunch support to the Republican party and takes much interest in community affairs, as a liberal and public-spirited citizen. He is affiliated with the North McGregor camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. In 1885 Mr. Schurtzman wedded Miss Agnes Scrogum, who was born and reared in this county, and they became the parents of three children, Amos, Evaline and Alvin, of whom the second died in childhood, the other two children still remaining residents of North McGregor.

**Gustav Seeman** is the owner of one of the fine farms of Clayton county, and stands forth as one of the vigorous and effective representatives of agricultural and live-stock enterprise in his native county, his also being the prestige of being a representative of a sterling pioneer family of this section of the Hawkeye state. Mr. Seeman was born at Guttenberg, this county, on the 2d of August, 1862, and is a son of Gottfried and Mary (Voss) Seeman, the former a native of Prussia and the latter of the city of Cincinnati, Ohio. Gottfried Seeman was reared and educated in his native land and upon coming to America he became one of the pioneer settlers at Guttenberg, Clayton county, where he engaged in the work of his trade, that of carpenter. His deep loyalty to the land of his adoption was significantly shown at the time of the Civil war, and he sacrificed his life in defense of the cause of the Union. He enlisted as a member of the Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and continued actively in its ranks until he met his death on the field of battle, leaving his young widow with two small children, of whom the subject of this review is the elder, the younger being Louise, who is the wife of Frederick Groth, of Guttenberg. The parents were earnest communicants of the Lutheran church and the mother long survived the husband of her youth, she having continued her residence in Clayton county until her death. Gustav Seeman acquired his early education in the schools of Jefferson township and as a youth he was employed by the month as a farm hand, his service in this capacity having continued two years, after which he was for an equal period employed at work on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. For the ensuing four years he operated a rented farm in Delaware county, and in 1895 he purchased a farm of two hundred and eleven acres, in Millville township, Clayton county. Of this property he has since disposed of all save his fine homestead place of one hundred and twenty-eight acres, and the excellent buildings and other permanent improvements on the place stand in evidence of his progressiveness and the success that has attended his well ordered enterprise. In connection with diversified agriculture he gives special attention to the raising of excellent grades of cattle and also the Jersey Red swine. In politics he holds aloof from strict partisan lines and gives his support to the men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment. Both he and his wife are communicants of the German Lutheran church. On the 6th of May, 1886, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Seeman to Miss Bertha Kobernusz, who was born in Prussia, on the 19th of June, 1867, and who was seven years of age at the time when her parents immigrated to America and established their home in the city of Chicago, whence they came within a short time thereafter to Clayton county, where they established their home on a farm in Jefferson township. Mrs. Seeman is a daughter of Frederick and Frederica (Hulz) Kobernusz, and her father was one of the representative farmers of Jefferson township at the time of his death, his widow being now a resident of Manly, this state. Mr. Kobernusz was a lifelong communicant of the German Lutheran church, of which his venerable

widow likewise is a devout adherent, and his political allegiance was given to the Democratic party. Of the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Seeman the first, Amanda, died in early childhood; Samuel is a resident of Littleport, Volga township; Amelia is the wife of Delbert Morley, of Elkport, this county; and Bert is associated in the work and management of the home farm. Samuel is married and has one son, Randall, who is the only grandchild of Mr. Seeman of this review.

**John Shepherd** has shown his professional and business enterprise by establishing and conducting in the village of Volga a splendidly equipped drug store, the facilities and service of which are of the best modern type, so that it naturally caters to a large and appreciative patronage and constitutes a valued addition to the mercantile activities of this thriving village of Clayton county. Mr. Shepherd was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, on the 11th of May, 1892, and is one of the five surviving children of Dr. John L. and Mary Amelia (Aimers) Shepherd, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of the state of Wisconsin. Dr. John L. Shepherd received in his native land the best of educational advantages and he came to the United States in his youth. Here he carefully prepared himself for the medical profession, and he became one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Chickasaw county, Iowa, where he was engaged in successful practice until the time of his death, which occurred in 1901. His widow now resides in the home of her son John, of this review, who is an eligible young bachelor, but who marks with deep filial appreciation the devotion and care of his mother, the gracious chatelaine of their pleasant home at Volga. He whose name initiates this review acquired his early education in the public schools and in preparation for the vocation to which he is now devoting his attention, he entered the department of pharmacy of Highland Park College, at Highland Park, a suburb of the city of Chicago. In this institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1914, and in the same year he established his present thriving business enterprise at Volga, where as a practical and registered pharmacist and a progressive young business man, he has met with excellent success in the upbuilding of a prosperous and substantial drug business. He has never entered the arena of practical political manoeuvres, but accords staunch allegiance to the Democratic party and takes lively interest in public affairs, especially those of a local order.

**Althea R. Sherman.**—In the old family homestead in National lives Althea R. Sherman, one of the busy workers of Clayton county. Although Farmersburg township was the place of her birth, sixty-three years ago, she has lived in it only a little more than half of her life. Fourteen years of teaching are counted to her credit; seven years of her girlhood were spent in academic and collegiate study in Fayette, Iowa, and Oberlin, Ohio; nearly five years were given to the study of art in Chicago and New York City. To these educational advantages may be added many months of travel in America and in several countries of the Old World. The visitor to the old home finds there some of the results of her life work.





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E. AMELIA SHERMAN, M.D.

Among several hundred studies in oil and in water colors, as well as various mediums of black and white, are a few copies from the old masters, and many of her own studies from nature: In landscape there are sketches made in various places from Maine to Alaska, and among her latest works are studies from living birds. Some of these have already been published, while others are ready for publication as illustrations for her writings on birds. Two books are now being written, chapters from which have appeared in ornithological magazines: One of them deals with the birds of her dooryard, the other is now appearing in serial form in the *Wilson Bulletin* under the title "Birds by the Wayside: In Europe, Asia, and Africa." It describes the birds she saw on a journey of 33,000 miles, and in twenty countries of the Old World. For several years it has been her annual custom to read a paper before some one of the leading scientific societies of America. These papers, setting forth the results of research work in the study of bird life, have been given a very hearty reception by scientists. The stamp of their approval may be seen in her election to the class of "Members" in the American Ornithologists' Union. Only three other women have ever been raised to this class, which is limited to one hundred persons. Another token of approbation was given by Smithsonian Institution, when it chose her paper on the feeding of hummingbirds to embody in its annual report to Congress. It sets forth that its aim is "to enrich the annual report required of them by law with memoirs illustrating the more remarkable and important developments in physical and biological discovery," and for this purpose about three dozen papers are chosen from all parts of the world. Of these the hummingbird paper was one in the report for 1913. Favorable notice has been taken of this paper in foreign countries and it has been republished in a British ornithological magazine. Another mark of appreciation has been given by the editor of "Biographic Directory of American Men of Science," when he enrolled Miss Sherman among the very few women whose histories are given in this volume. She names some seven or eight scientific societies in which she has membership, and in several of which she takes an active part. Besides the study of birds she is carrying on a series of observations on bats. All about the place are evidences of the preparations she has made to attract the birds: There are boxes for nesting, brush-piles and refuges of various sorts, besides two buildings built especially for bird study, and in addition to these the barn has been the natal home of a half dozen species of birds. Nesting boxes are placed in it, that are so arranged that the bird life within can be watched by unseen observers. It is thought that this is the only place in America in which the visitor may thus view the mysteries of the home life of four hole-nesting species of birds. At the time of our visit a screech owl in one of these boxes was brooding her snow-white, downy young, and a few rods away in an open lot a killdeer had placed her nest, while many of the common birds of village and orchard were busy at nest-building.

**E. Amelia Sherman.**—A few simple facts concerning the life

of one of the first physicians to be born in Clayton county are that Ellen Amelia Sherman, A. B., M. D., was born in Farmersburg township, Clayton county, Iowa, on November 29, 1849, the third child and third daughter of Mark Bachelor Sherman and Sibyl Melissa (Clark) Sherman, whose biographies are written elsewhere in this volume, and to which reference may be made for her ancestry. She was fortunate in having energetic, frugal ancestors who endeavored to make the record of their lives such that it might be an inspiration to those who came after them. Dr. Sherman says, "My earliest recollection of the country was that at least half of the surrounding prairie was unbroken and unfenced, the common pasture of the farmers," and here many varieties of wild flowers grew which she and her sisters delighted to gather. She remembers distinctly of gathering wild flowers in the summer of 1852, with Samuel Whitman, a Harvard College student, and silently wondering why he stopped so long to look at them and dug up the roots of some of them. The following winter, one evening she was seated in her little chair by her mother while the mother read to a company from the New York Tribune an article by Gail Hamilton; after the reading the company discussed whether Gail Hamilton was a man or woman (then unknown), when one of the gentlemen emphatically declared that the writer could not be a woman as no woman could write like that. She looked from one to the other and thought, my mother can write as well as my father and why can not a woman write like that! This shows the intuition of some children. In the spring of 1854 the brick walls and roof of the first school house in the district were made on the open prairie, half a mile from her home, and the first day of school she attended with her two older sisters, their seats being the freshly cut green lumber piled around the unplastered walls to season, there being no desks. At the close of the summer school the school-house was plastered and seats with desks made. Wild things were abundant. A neighbor's boys gathered two hundred prairiehens' eggs and hatched them under tame hens, wishing to tame prairiehens, but every chick eventually skulked off and died. Thousands of prairiehens and wild pigeons in their season were killed for food, but the larger game of wild turkey, deer, bear, etc., were not abundant in the fifties. Her parents encouraged their children in getting an education, but she was not blessed with robust health and at times, in almost every term of school, she had to be absent on account of sickness. When fifteen years old she had so well mastered the branches taught in the home school that her parents then sent her for four terms to the Upper Iowa University. When about seventeen years old she decided she wished to be a doctor, then perhaps a missionary. When she told her parents of her choice of a profession, her mother opposed the idea, her father said nothing. Later she again told her parents of her desire to be a doctor; still her mother did not approve, but her father, who always endeavored to grant any reasonable wish of his children, had in the meantime considered the question, and then said, "Why not let her study medicine? It will not hurt her." Then there was no



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MARK B. SHERMAN

more opposition. She then taught rural schools for two years and saved her wages to go to school with. While teaching she was interested in natural history and made a collection of birds' eggs and insects. In 1869 she went with her sisters, Ada and Althea, to Oberlin College and studied for an A. B. degree, for the reason that she had observed that usually the most successful M. D.'s were those who had also an A. B. degree, and she wished to be one of the best of doctors. She received her A. B. degree from Oberlin College in 1874. Thereafter she taught almost continuously in public and private schools until the fall of 1876, when, with her sister (now Dr. Ada Sherman-St. John of Wichita, Kansas), she entered the Woman's Medical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she studied nine months, and then was given, for about three months, the position of assistant to the resident physician and surgeon of the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia. Then she received the appointment of interne for one year in the New England Hospital for Women and Children, Boston, Massachusetts, for which positions they could not procure enough women M. D.'s, so accepted well recommended undergraduates. In the fall of 1878 she entered the Senior Medical class of Michigan University and received the degree of M. D. in 1879. On her way home, stopping in Chicago she met Dr. Mary Thompson, who was looking for a resident physician for the Chicago Hospital for Women and Children (now the Mary Thompson Hospital), and Dr. Sherman accepted the position, residing in the hospital for nine months; then for three years she was in private practice in Chicago, but held clinics two days each week at the hospital, and was anæsthetist for Dr. Thompson; also two days each week she held clinics at the Woman's Temperance Union. In 1884 she received the appointment of assistant physician for women in the Iowa Independence State Hospital for the Insane, which position she held for three and one-third years, then resigned to go into private practice where she could care for her aged parents at their home in National. Never having had rugged health, many years of arduous devotion to her profession brought on heart disease in 1894, so she had to give up her large general practice and limit her work mostly to mental diseases and office practice, but she will not entirely give up her chosen profession, and devotes much time to postgraduate work, attending medical and scientific meetings, writing articles, and posting herself in the advancement of science and medicine. Of her articles read before various medical societies, some of them have been printed, including the following: "Diseases of Women as Causes of Insanity" (printed in the Transactions of Iowa State Medical Society, Vol. VII); State vs. County Care of the Insane (Woman's Medical Journal); Immaterial Remedies and Their Uses in the Regular Practice of Medicine, (Ibid); When Should We Advise Operative Treatment for Fibroid Tumors of the Uterus (Ibid); The Consumptives' Plea (a poem) (Ibid).

**Mark B. Sherman.**—In reviewing the life history of pioneers such as were Mark Bachelor Sherman and his wife, Sibyl Melissa (Clark) Sherman, it may be noted that they were born of pioneer



as well as of Puritan stock: of a race that for two hundred years had been leaders in the march westward of the human legions. One of the highly prized possessions that Mr. Sherman brought with him to Iowa was a manuscript history of his father's family, that showed his descent from men and women who had borne their part in the founding of this nation in America. One of these ancestors was Roger Conant, the founder of Salem, Mass.; another was Major Simon Willard, a prominent man in colonial affairs, who, with Rev. Peter Bulkeley, led the little band of twelve families that made the first settlement at Concord, Mass.; still another ancestor was Captain Aaron Kimball of Revolutionary days, who was one of the "Minute Men" of Lexington fame. It was Captain John Sherman who brought the family name to America in 1634. He was the ancestor not only of Mark B. Sherman, but also of Roger Sherman, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and of Hon. William M. Evarts, and of Senators George F. Hoar and Chauncey M. Depew. The mother of Mrs. Sherman bore the maiden name of Sibyl Adams; her parents were distant cousins, both being descendants of Henry Adams of Braintree, Mass., the forefather of President John Adams; and her grandmother was Sarah Bradford, a descendant of Governor William Bradford of Plymouth Colony; Mark B. Sherman was born February 7, 1816, in Walpole, N. H., and Sibyl Melissa Clark was born September 13, 1822, in Cornwall, Vt., but the families of both removed to Essex county, New York, in their childhood. Their marriage was solemnized on May 26, 1842, in Westport, N. Y. Elijah Sherman, the father of Mark, was a tanner by trade and manufactured boots and shoes on a large scale for those days. All his sons, except Edwin, followed his lines of business. Money at that period was a scarce medium of exchange, most of their business being transacted by barter. Two of the brothers, Lewis and Mark, had this to relate: That during a year and a half of busy work at their trade their only pay in money was one five-dollar gold piece. The lure of the west having gripped Mr. Sherman and his wife, the first of October, 1843, found them on their way to Wisconsin via the Erie canal and the Great Lakes route. The voyage from Buffalo to Milwaukee was made in six days on the steamer Bunker Hill, a famous old lake boat. Business conditions were not found satisfactory in Milwaukee, and in consequence a few weeks later our couple started westward once more. This time transportation was by team, the roads were excellent for the middle of December, and a journey of eleven days brought them to Prairie du Chien in the evening of Forefathers' day. At this place lived two brothers of Mrs. Sherman, David and S. A. Clark. The Shermans had found in Milwaukee that merchandise was cheaper than it was in their old home in northern New York, and in Prairie du Chien business could be done without barter, due to the money sent there by the United States government to pay its soldiers. Having injured his health by his work on the shoemaker's bench, Mr. Sherman resolved to try farming. He entered land in sections 25 and 26 of Farmersburg township, Clayton county, Iowa, and moved his family to it in May of 1845. During



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HOME BUILT BY MARK B. SHERMAN IN FARMERSBURG TOWNSHIP  
IN 1845

the first summer the family occupied a temporary cabin, pending the construction of a more comfortable home. This house was most substantially built by David Clark, having been planned to withstand the high winds which the other early settlers believed would wreck it. In accordance with their belief all of them had built their own homes within the shelter of the woods. Thus it happened that not only was this one of the first frame houses erected in Clayton county, but also it was one of the first houses to be built on the prairie. It was occupied as a residence for sixty years and in 1916 it is still standing. At the close of the Mexican war the United States government gave land warrants to its discharged soldiers; each one of which was good for a quarter section of land and was transferable. There was plenty of public land to be had at \$1.25 per acre, in consequence of which the soldier, wishing to sell his warrant, did so at a discount. One of these warrants, bought for seventy-nine cents an acre, was laid by Mr. Sherman on a portion of the farm now owned by Mr. Louis Matt. To young men of recent years, who thought the pioneers had superior advantages because they bought their land for a small sum, Mrs. Sherman would explain that the pioneer had much harder times. There was a very poor market for his very laboriously raised crops, and the things he bought came high. This she illustrated with an instance from her own experience: She once traded a washtubful of eggs for a pound of tea; eggs were three cents per dozen, and tea was a dollar per pound. Mrs. Sherman, ever eager for learning, acquired an excellent education for a girl of her period, but was ambitious for more schooling than she received, and declared her willingness to work her fingers to the bone in order to provide better opportunities for her children than she had enjoyed. That her desires were realized is indicated by the college and university work done by her children. The oldest child in this family, Emma Maria, was born in Prairie du Chien, Wis., March 22, 1844, and died near Schaller, Iowa, August 9, 1881. She married Elihu F. Chase, September 15, 1859, by whom she had six children, viz., Beecher, Burritt, Russell, Althea, Martha and Bertha. Russell became a civil engineer and for several years has held a responsible position as chief field engineer on the Southern Pacific railroad; Althea is an artist, having studied her chosen art for many years in this country and in Europe; Martha is a successful teacher. The succeeding children of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman were born on their farm in Farmersburg township, two miles from National. Julia Adelaide, the second child, born May 6, 1847, was graduated from Upper Iowa University with the degree of B. S.; from Oberlin College she received A. B. and A. M. degrees, and her M. D. from Michigan University. She married Philo D. St. John on June 30, 1880. Of her three children, Della is a musician and Burton is a chemist who holds high rank in his profession; another son died in infancy. Ellen Amelia Sherman, born November 29, 1849, received her A. B. degree from; Oberlin College and her M. D. degree from Michigan University. Althea Rosina Sherman, born October 10, 1853, received both her A. B. and A. M. degrees from Oberlin College.



Sibyl Melissa, the fifth child, born July 28, 1856, died in her fourth year. Mark Roger Sherman, born September 10, 1863, received his A. B. and L.L. B. degrees from Michigan University. He married Mary Lull on September 28, 1893. Two children, Roger and Sibyl, followed this union. About the farm to which the family moved in 1845 naught could be seen but a trackless wilderness of prairie grass, and the cry of the wolf was the only sound that broke the solitude. During the husband's absence the first caller came, a Winnebago chief, who peacefully sought a meal of victuals, yet none the less brought terror to the young mother. When she paid a visit to a neighbor, a rattlesnake, falling from the tea-kettle when it was lifted to the stove, gave a thrill to the afternoon unmatched even now by moving picture shows. Soon other settlers came, and in a few years they were followed by the many caravans of "prairie schooners" bound for points farther west. After the farm was sold in 1865 the family home for one year was in Fayette, after which it was in National, where Mr. Sherman died in 1896, and his wife in 1902. He is remembered as a man possessing many noble qualities: as one having a high sense of justice and honor, and as one ever ready to do his share in the work of the world.

**Theodore Sherman II**, son of Frederick William and Minerva (Severance) Sherman, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, September 16, 1845. His father was a native of Whitehall, N. Y., born in 1806, and his wife of Essex county, in the same state, born in 1810. They came west in September, 1853, and settled in Monona, Clayton county, when it was but a small settlement of thirteen shacks. Under the persevering diligence of such sturdy pioneers, it has grown to be a thriving town, with the surrounding country reaching a value of \$200.00 an acre. Frederick was a millwright by trade, and was employed in the Buffalo, N. Y., shipyards for a period of fifteen years. To him and his wife were born twelve children, only three of whom survive. Theodore II, a sketch of whose life follows, and two sisters, Susan, the widow of John Milton Leach of Elkader, Iowa, and Ellen, also a widow, the relict of R. E. Pierce of Omaha, Neb. The nine deceased children were: Danvers, Alonzo W., Theodore, Frank B. and Frederick William, Jr., who were twins; Anne Melissa, Alice M., Minerva and Ida. The mother passed away in 1857. Mr. Sherman married Miss Smith for his second wife, but no children were born to them. Theodore Sherman, having lost his mother at the age of thirteen, went to Winneshek county, where he found employment on a farm until he was seventeen, when he enlisted in 1862 in Company L, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, and served three years and two months on the plains fighting Indians. Good fighting blood flowed in his veins, for the uncle for whom he was named was a veteran of the Revolutionary war. He fought in several heavy battles, the one of three days' desperate fighting in the Bad Lands, another at Liahukoto, and took part in much dangerous scouting and skirmishing. He was mustered out in 1865, and returned to Monona, where he bought eighty acres of land from his father and took up the peaceful occupation of farming. Two years later, in December, 1867, he was united in marriage

to Harriet Egbert, daughter of Daniel and Harriet (Barnes) Egbert, but she died five years later, leaving him childless, and he left his farm, going to Michigan into the pineries, where he worked for two years as a scaler and cruiser. At the expiration of that time, he returned to Monona and took up the trade of carpentering, which he had learned as a boy, and followed until 1876. He married for his second wife, Alice M. Murphy, who was born in Indiana in 1852, and two children were the result of this union: Frank T., born in 1878, died in June, 1914; and Blanche A., born in 1886, and living at home. Mr. Sherman is a Republican in politics, and a Free Thinker in religion. He is an ardent worker in the G. A. R., organizing Monona Post No. 495 twenty years ago, and serving as its commander five different times. He has also been an enthusiastic member of the Masonic Lodge for forty-four years, holding the honor post of past master, and filling with highest credit all the other offices of the lodge. Mr. Sherman officiated as undertaker on the death of any resident of the county until Monona had a professional undertaker, and is the oldest male resident in the town. While interested in the political questions of the day, he has refused to hold office, devoting all his spare time to his family circle, with the exception that he is chairman of the Clayton county soldiers' relief committee, which position he has held for nine years.

**Louis L. Siegele** is the owner of one of the excellent farms that mark Clayton county as one of the finest agricultural and livestock sections of the Hawkeye state, and he is giving special attention to the raising of high-grade livestock, though devoting due consideration also to diversified agriculture. He is known as one of the progressive and successful representatives of these basic industries in his native county and is one of the broad-gauged and popular citizens of Mendon township, where his homestead farm comprises one hundred and fifty-seven acres. He is a member of a family whose name had been worthily linked with the history of Clayton county for nearly sixty years and comes of staunch German lineage. Mr. Siegele was born on the pioneer homestead farm of his father, in Mendon township, this county, and the date of his nativity was November 12, 1860. He is a son of John G. and Christena (Young) Siegele, both natives of Germany. The father was born and reared in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg and as a young man emigrated to America, in order to gain better opportunity of achieving independence through personal endeavor. He remained in the state of New York for a time and was there employed in connection with farm enterprise in Orange county. In 1858 he numbered himself among the early settlers of Clayton county, Iowa, which was then on the very frontier, and he purchased a tract of forty acres of virgin land in Mendon township. He reclaimed this land to cultivation and added one hundred and twenty acres to the same, so that eventually he developed a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres, besides which he further manifested his progressiveness and resourceful energy by establishing and operating a small grist mill. He long continued his activities, a sterling citizen who commanded unqualified popular confidence and esteem, and he passed the closing two

years of his life in well-earned retirement, his death having occurred on the 14th of February, 1893. His political allegiance was given to the Democratic party and he was a zealous communicant of the German Lutheran church, as was also his wife, who survived him by about four years and who was summoned to eternal rest on the 13th of September, 1897, a woman of earnest and gentle personality and one who had proved a devoted wife and mother. Of the children the eldest is Charles, who resides at Emmettsburg, Palo Alto county, this state; Frederick is a prosperous farmer in Mendon township; Louis L., of this review, was the third in order of birth; Lena is the wife of Richard Davis, and they maintain their home in Clayton county; and Bertha is the wife of John Miller, of Emmettsburg. To the pioneer schools of his native county, Louis L. Siegele is indebted for his early educational advantages, and with the work of the home farm he continued his effective association until he had attained to the age of twenty-two years, when he rented the place and initiated his independent activities as an agriculturist and stock grower. After thus continuing operations on his father's farm for a period of eight years, he purchased a farm of eighty acres in the same township, later increasing its area by obtaining an adjoining seventy acres. He finally sold this property and purchased a farm near Emmettsburg, Palo Alto county, where he remained about two years. He then made an advantageous sale of the property and returned to Clayton county, where he purchased his present homestead, which comprises one hundred and fifty-seven acres. He has individually supplemented the improvements that had previously been made on the place and has brought to it definite status as one of the model stock farms of this section of the state, his special field of enterprise being in the raising of cattle and swine of the best grades. Loyal to all the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, Mr. Siegele has given co-operation in the furtherance of those enterprises that tend to advance the general welfare of the community, and though he has had no ambition for public office, he is aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. The religious affiliation of the family is with the Lutheran church. On the 7th of October, 1885, Mr. Siegele wedded Miss Clara Foley, who likewise was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Timothy and Melinda (Frames) Foley, the former of whom was born in Ireland, on the 15th of April, 1838, and the latter of whom was born in Clayton county, on the 3d of August, 1844, a date that indicates conclusively that her parents were numbered among the earliest pioneer settlers of this section of Iowa. Mr. Foley came to Clayton county in 1858, and here his marriage was solemnized on the 11th of January, 1860. He was long one of the successful farmers and representative citizens of Clayton county, where he lived to pass the psalmist's span of three score years and ten and where his death occurred on the 11th of June, 1910, his cherished and devoted wife having passed away on the 27th of May, 1906. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Siegele, the first born is Mabel, who is the wife of Arthur Hanks, of Farmersburg township, their two children being Carroll and Foster and



these two being the only grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Siegele; Carl is associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm; Amy is the wife of Peter Hansen, of Dubuque, this state; Ruth now resides at Mason City, Cerro Gordo county; Walter and John remain at the parental home; Glenn is deceased; and Gayle is the youngest member of the gracious family circle at the parental home.

**Albert Smith**, one of the vigorous and progressive business men of Strawberry Point, has been a resident of Clayton county since he was an infant, is a scion of a sterling pioneer family of the county and through his own energy and well-directed efforts, has gained success and prosperity in connection with normal lines of industrial and business enterprise. He was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 25th of December, 1857, and a few months later his parents, Andrew and Martha N. (Sargent) Smith, likewise natives of Canada, came, in 1858, to Clayton county, Iowa, where the father obtained a tract of land near Strawberry Point and instituted the reclamation and development of a farm. Here he continued his active association with the basic industry of agriculture until his death, which occurred in 1876, his wife having survived him by a number of years. Of their children the subject of this review is the first born; Louis died in childhood; Wilbur is a resident of Marion, N. D.; and Lillie is the wife of Charles F. Hesner, of Edgewood, this county. Albert Smith was reared to adult age under the influences of the pioneer farm of his father and in the meanwhile broadened his intellectual ken by duly attending the district schools. He was a sturdy youth of eighteen years at the time of his father's death, and, as the eldest of the children, he assumed the management of the old home farm, which comprised sixty acres. Later he devoted twelve years to effective clerical service in mercantile establishments at Strawberry Point, and at the expiration of this period he became associated with a man named Deckwood in the conducting of a feed store. One year later he sold his interest in this enterprise and turned his attention to the buying and shipping of cattle, with which line of commercial enterprise he continued his identification from 1886 to 1892. In the latter year he became a member of the firm of Lang, Hulbert & Smith, which controlled a butchering and meat market business at the time when he purchased the interest of his partners in 1902. Thereafter Mr. Smith continued the business in an individual way until 1911, when he sold out. In 1913, however, he became associated with Carl A. Schoeppe and repurchased the business, which they have since successfully conducted, in connection with active operations in the buying and shipping of livestock. Mr. Smith is a vigorous and progressive citizen, a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party, and he has not only served most acceptably as a member of the village council but is also making an excellent record in the office of trustee of Cass township, of which he is the incumbent in 1916. He has received the three degrees of ancient-craft Masonry, as an active member of the lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons at Strawberry Point, and he holds membership also in the

adjunct organization, the Order of the Eastern Star, besides being affiliated also with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Royal Neighbors, and his wife is a member of the Congregational church. As a young man Mr. Smith wedded Miss Flora Cooper, a native of the state of Ohio, and they have four children: Lynn Cooper Smith, the eldest of the number, now resides at Cresco, Howard county; Bert A. is associated with his father's business; Marguerita is the wife of H. D. Staehle, of Strawberry Point; and Claude C. remains at the parental home.

**G. A. Smith** is consistently to be designated as one of the representative business men of his native county and since 1901 he has been established in the hardware and farm-implement business at Volga, where effective service and fair and honorable dealings have gained to him a substantial and profitable supporting patronage. Mr. Smith is in both the paternal and maternal lines a scion of staunch English ancestry, his parents having been born in England and having been children at the time of the immigration of the respective families to the United States. He whose name introduces this article is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Keeling) Smith, who became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, where the father still maintains his home; he is now living retired at Volga, after long years of successful association with agricultural pursuits, and in this village his devoted wife passed to the life eternal in 1914. They became the parents of five children, all of whom survive the loved mother. G. A. Smith is indebted to the public schools of Clayton county for his early educational training and in the same he continued his studies until he had availed himself of the advantages of the high school at Volga. He continued his association with the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, and he then went to the city of Spencer, Clay county, where he entered upon and served a thorough apprenticeship to the trade of tinner, in which he is a skilled workman, his technical knowledge and mechanical ability being of much value to him in connection with his present well-ordered business enterprise. Mr. Smith continued to be employed at his trade until 1901, when he established his present hardware and implement business at Volga, and his trade now extends throughout the splendid agricultural section normally tributary to this thriving village. He is a progressive business man and public-spirited citizen, is a Republican in his political adherency and he is serving, in 1916, as president of the board of education of Volga. His success and advancement have been won through his own ability and efforts and he has so ordered his course as to merit and receive the confidence and goodwill of his fellow men. He is affiliated with the Modern Brotherhood of America and his wife holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. In the year 1897 Mr. Smith wedded Miss Ruth Sanborn, who was born and reared in Howard county, this state, where her father still resides, her mother being deceased. She is a member of a family of ten children, all of whom are living except one. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children, Winnifred H.



and Glen W., both of whom are, in 1916, students in the Volga high school.

**Clarence F. Spaulding.**—It is most gratifying to be able to present in this publication specific data concerning a goodly percentage of the native sons who have found in Clayton county excellent opportunities for productive endeavors in connection with industrial, commercial, mercantile and other business enterprises, as well as in the various professions. He whose name initiates this article has won secure vantage-ground as one of the progressive and representative business men of his native county, has not been denied the fullest meed of popular confidence and esteem and is one of the alert and public-spirited citizens of McGregor, where he is successfully established in the furniture and undertaking business. He is consistently to be designated as a scion of one of the pioneer families of this county, as indicated by the date of his birth, which here occurred on the 10th of October, 1854. He is a son of Benjamin Franklin Spaulding and Melissa (Marsh) Spaulding, and his father was serving as deputy United States marshal of northern Iowa at the time of his death in 1862, his wife having survived him by a term of years. Of the seven children the first was a daughter who died in infancy and the second was Arabella, who was young at the time of her death; W. Delos, the eldest son, is now a resident of Renville, Minn.; Clarence F., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Frank F. now maintains his residence in the city of Portland, Ore.; Clayton died young; and Carl S. resides at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Clarence F. Spaulding was a lad of eight years at the time of his father's death, and such were the conditions and exigencies of time and place that he was early thrown largely upon his own resources, though he was not denied the privilege of attending school at intervals. When but twelve years of age he began working for a farmer of this county, and with this line of work he continued to be identified until he was fifteen years old, when he showed his self-reliance and worthy ambition by learning the trade of telegraphy. He perfected himself as an operator and for the long period of thirty-four years he was employed as a telegraphist and executive in the service of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. During twenty years of this period he held the position of freight and passenger agent at the McGregor station of this important railway system, and his administration was careful and efficient—one that gave satisfaction both to his employers and the general public. In 1903 Mr. Spaulding purchased his present furniture and undertaking establishment, and he has since continued the business successfully, with a well-equipped establishment and with a personal popularity that has proved a valuable business asset. Mr. Spaulding is aligned as a stalwart in the local ranks of the Republican party, though never an aspirant for public office, and he is actively affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, including the Honorious Commandery of Knights Templar and the temple of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in the city of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In 1887 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Spaulding to Miss Kate E. Stowe, who like-



wise was born and reared in Clayton county, and their only child is Edward L., who is practicing law in McGregor, having graduated from the Northwestern University, Chicago, in 1910, and who, on receiving his degree, practiced for two years in Chicago before returning to McGregor.

**William J. Splies**, the popular cashier of the Luana Savings Bank, is a scion of the third generation of the family in Clayton county, with whose history the names of both his paternal and maternal grandfathers became identified in the early pioneer days, and he has gained prestige as one of the most vital, enterprising and public-spirited citizens of his native county, where he is prominently concerned with civic and business affairs in the thriving village of Luana and where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. William John Splies was born in Farmersburg township, this county, on the 10th of August, 1877, the old homestead farm which was the place of his nativity being situated not far distant from Farmersburg. He is a son of Fred and Bertha (Oelke) Splies, both of whom were born and reared in the vicinity of Garnavillo, this county, where their parents established homes in the very early pioneer period. Fred Splies gained his youthful education in the common schools of the locality and period and continued his active and successful association with agricultural pursuits, as the owner of a well-improved and valuable farm, until 1900, when he removed to the village of Luana and became associated with his son, William J., of this review, in the general merchandise business. They built up a substantial and prosperous business and he continued his active connection with the same until 1913, since which time he has lived virtually retired, he and his wife having a pleasant home in Luana and being well known and highly esteemed citizens of the county whose development and progress they have witnessed, their memories linking the primitive pioneer era with the latter-day period of opulent prosperity. Mr. Splies is one of the substantial men of his native county, is a staunch Democrat in his political proclivities and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the German Lutheran church, as were also their respective parents, who came to Iowa soon after their immigration from Germany to the United States. Of the children of Fred and Bertha (Oelke) Splies, the subject of this sketch is the first born; Elizabeth is the wife of Henry Schultz, who is a carpenter and builder by vocation and who is engaged in the work of his trade at Luana; and Charlotte, the youngest of the children, died March 12, 1914. William J. Splies passed the period of his childhood and youth on the home farm and in addition to profiting duly by the advantages of the local schools, he completed also an effective course of study in the Breckinridge School at Decorah, Winneshiek county. Soon after the completion of his school work, Mr. Splies became, in 1900, associated with his father in the mercantile business at Luana, as previously noted. They disposed of the stock and business in 1913 and he then became secretary and manager of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Company at Luana, a position of which he continued the valued

incumbent until the spring of 1916, when he was elected cashier of the Luana Savings Bank, of whose directorate he had become a member at the time of its incorporation. In addition to his effective services as cashier of this representative financial institution, Mr. Splies is treasurer of the Co-operative Creamery Company previously mentioned, is secretary of the Luana Opera House Association and is serving as treasurer of the consolidated independent school district and secretary and treasurer of Luana Farmers Co-operative Society. It thus becomes evident that he is emphatically one of the alert and public-spirited young business men of his native county, and that he is distinctly influential in community affairs. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he and his wife are communicants of the German Lutheran church in their home village, besides which they are popular factors in the leading social activities of the community. February 21, 1906, recorded the marriage of Mr. Splies to Miss Maude E. Truman, who was born and reared in Clayton county, and who is a daughter of John and Helen (Burgess) Truman, the former of whom was born in Vermont, near beautiful Lake Champlain, and the latter of whom was born in the city of Detroit, Mich. Upon coming to Iowa, in the pioneer days, John Truman established his residence in Clayton county and became the owner and operator of a grain elevator at Luana. When the Civil war was precipitated on the nation he promptly tendered his services in defense of the Union, by enlisting early in 1861, as a member of an Iowa volunteer regiment, with which he proceeded to the front and with which he continued in active and valiant service until the close of the war. He then resumed his active operations in the buying and shipping of grain and continued his residence at Luana until his death, which occurred December 23, 1874. His widow survived him by nearly twenty years and was summoned to eternal rest on the 29th of June, 1893, both having been earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Truman having been a stalwart supporter of the cause of the Republican party. Of their children, Maude Ellen, wife of Mr. Splies, is the second; the first born, Hattie Helen, is deceased. Mrs. Splies was born May 31, 1872, and thus was not yet three years of age at the time of her father's death. She gained her early education in the public schools of Luana and supplemented this by a course of study in St. Mary's Academy at Prairie du Chien, Wis. Her only brother, John W., is now a prosperous agriculturist near Oacoma, Lyman county, S. D. Mr. and Mrs. Splies have no children.

**Arthur H. Staack** is an enterprising and progressive young man who has been the able coadjutor of Arthur Hamann in the development of the substantial and thriving automobile and general garage business which they now control, under the firm name of Hamann & Staack, and of the senior member of this representative business firm of the city of Guttenberg, specific mention is made on other pages of this volume, together with adequate information concerning the upbuilding of the prosperous business of this popular firm. Mr. Staack was born at Clayton Center, this county, on the

1st of December, 1892, and is a son of Carl and Sophia (Paegel) Staack, both natives of Germany. Carl Staack was reared and educated in his native land and came to America about the year 1880. Soon after his arrival in America he came to Clayton county and established his home at Clayton Center, where he has since continued to conduct a successful business at his trade, that of blacksmith. He is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Lutheran church, in which he has served as trustee of the church at Clayton Center. Of the five children the subject of this review is the youngest, the eldest being Sophia, who is the wife of Henry Dahl, of Farmersburg township; Annie now resides at Elkader, the county seat; Louise is the wife of Charles Gossman, of Read township; and William is identified with agricultural pursuits in Garnaville township. Arthur H. Staack is indebted to the public schools of his native village for his early educational discipline, and to equip himself adequately for the practical work and management of the business in which he is now successfully established he completed an effective course in the school conducted in the city of Omaha by the National Automobile Association. In the autumn of 1912 he formed an effective alliance with Arthur Hamann and the firm of Hamann & Staack founded in a modest way the automobile business which has by these straightforward and ambitious young men been developed to its present important and prosperous status. Mr. Staack is aligned staunchly in the ranks of the Democratic party and he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Guttenberg, in the social activities of which fine little city they are popular factors. On the 10th of June, 1915, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Staack to Miss Hilda Lemke, who was born and reared in Read township, this county, where her parents, Henry and Minnie (Radloff) Lemke, still reside on their model farm.

**John Stahl** is proving his resourcefulness and enterprise as one of the representative factors in the mercantile circles of the thriving little city of Volga, where he conducts a well-equipped jewelry and five- and ten-cent store that caters to a substantial and constantly increasing patronage. He was born in Boardman township, this county, on the 29th of March, 1872, and is a son of John and Mary (Heiden) Stahl, both natives of Germany. The father was a boy at the time when he accompanied one of his uncles to America, and they established their home on a farm near Three Corners, Clayton county, Iowa. John Stahl, Sr., was here reared to manhood and here he became a substantial and prosperous farmer, his active association with the basic industry of agriculture having continued until his death, which occurred when he was about seventy-one years of age. His wife survived him and was summoned to eternal rest on the 29th of June, 1914. Of their children, Benjamin, the first born, died in infancy; August is a resident of Grinnell, this state; Charles maintains his home in the state of Colorado; Annie is deceased; Lena is the wife of William Behrens, of Elkport, this county; Frederick resides at Osborne, this county; John, of this review, was the next in order of birth; Henry is de-



ceased; Minnie is the wife of Thomas Lendman, of Volga, this county; Mary is the wife of William Goodin, of Volga; George resides at Oelwein, Fayette county; and Otto is deceased. John Stahl, the immediate subject of this sketch, gained his early education in the public schools of Clayton county and continued his association with the work of the home farm from his boyhood until he had attained to his legal majority. He then accompanied his brother Charles on a trip to the far west, but he was soon attacked with severe illness and was compelled to return to the parental home. After recuperating he was again associated with the affairs of the home farm for three years, and during the following two and one-half years he was employed in driving a stage between Elkader and the village of Clayton. The following year he passed on his father's farm and he then went to Fenton, where he was identified with the hardware business for two and one-half years. He then located at Elkader, judicial center of his native county, where he learned the jeweler's trade, and in June, 1908, he established at Volga the thriving business enterprise to which he has since given his attention. He is a loyal and public-spirited citizen, but has had no desire for political office or activity, though he gives his allegiance and active support to the cause of the Democratic party. Mr. Stahl still permits his name to appear on the list of eligible bachelors in his native county.

**John E. Stalnaker.**—When it is stated that this well-known and highly esteemed citizen was born in Lodomillo township on the 2d of April, 1853, the incidental information that transpires is that he is assuredly a representative of one of the pioneer families of Clayton county. This is a distinction in which he may well take pride, but through his own volition and ability he has done much to confer new honors on the name which he bears and the county that has ever been his home. In this section of the state of Iowa it is safe to say that no member of the pedagogic profession has labored more earnestly and effectively or gained more secure vantage-place in popular confidence and esteem. Further than this there are few teachers in the Hawkeye commonwealth who can claim a record of so prolonged service as can Mr. Stalnaker, who in a period of forty-three years has missed but one term of teaching consecutively in the public schools, his native county having been the stage of his successful endeavors during all these years, and his angle of benignant influence being one that continues to broaden in value through the lives and services of those upon whom it has been impressed. Mr. Stalnaker has at the present time, in the summer of 1916, the remarkable record of having taught one hundred and twenty-two terms of school, and continuously since 1908 he has been the executive and academic head of the school in district No. 5, Lodomillo township, where his continued tenure of the position virtually is contingent only upon his personal willingness to serve. In addition to his work as a teacher, Mr. Stalnaker is likewise an effective exponent of agricultural and livestock industry in his native county, and he resides upon his well improved farmstead of one hundred and twenty-five acres, in section 17,

Lodomillo township, this property having been purchased by him in 1894. He has been an honored and influential figure in the directing of popular sentiment and action, is a staunch and effective advocate of the principles of the Republican party and he has served in various public offices of local trust, in which connection it may be noted that he held for twelve years the office of justice of the peace and for an equal period that of township assessor. He is affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America, and his wife is a member of the Christian church. The attractive family home, known alike for its atmosphere of culture and refinement and for its gracious hospitality, is about 5 miles distant from Strawberry Point, from which village it receives service on rural mail route No. 1. James M. and Elizabeth (McLane) Stalnaker, parents of him whose name introduces this review, were both born in the historic old state of West Virginia, and the father became one of the earliest settlers of Clayton county, as he here established his home in 1851. In 1851 he became the owner of a pioneer farm in Lodomillo township, and there he continued his activities as an agriculturist until his death, which occurred September 7, 1875, his wife passed to eternal rest in 1877. Of their children the eldest is Hiram P., who is now a resident of Arlington, Fayette county; William A. and Silas M. reside at Littleport, Clayton county; Emma is the wife of William M. Rounds and their home is in the state of Oklahoma; John E., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Solomon died in infancy; Millard F. is a resident of Marshalltown, Marshall county, and Virginia is deceased. John E. Stalnaker found the period of his childhood and youth compassed by the conditions and influences of the pioneer days and he early began to contribute his quota to the work of the home farm. He continued his studies in the schools of his home township until he had attained to the age of seventeen years, and for two years thereafter he attended the village schools of Strawberry Point. His broader and more liberal education has been that gained in the staunch college of his own experience, and he has been a successful and popular representative of the pedagogic profession since he was a youth of twenty years. On the 6th of December, 1874, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Stalnaker to Miss Sarah E. McKinnis, who was born in the state of Indiana, a daughter of Robert and Susan (Burnsides) McKinnis, the former of Scotch and the latter of German lineage. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. McKinnis the first four, Charles, John, Jane and Mary, are deceased; Genevra is the widow of Jay Young and resides in San Francisco, California; Robert maintains his home at Santa Cruz, California; Mary (second of the name) is deceased; Sarah E., wife of the subject of this review, was the eighth child; and the youngest, Frank is now a resident of the state of Oklahoma. Mrs. Stalnaker was a child of two years at the time when the family home was established in Clayton county. In 1864 her father removed to California, where he remained two years. He then returned to Clayton county, but in 1878 he again went to California, whence, six months later, he removed to Seward county, Nebraska,

where he died in the year 1885, his widow having passed the closing period of her life in Seward county, Nebraska, where she died in 1895. In conclusion is given brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Stalnaker: Ella is the wife of Charles L. Sauerby, of Lodomillo township; Raymond E. has practical supervision of the home farm of his father; Eva died in infancy; and Frank H., who was graduated in the veterinary college at St. Joseph, Missouri, as a member of the class of 1916, is now established in the practice of his profession in his native county, with residence and headquarters in the village of Edgewood. All of the children were given good educational advantages and were further favored in being reared in a home of distinctive culture and high ideals.

**Silas M. Stalnaker** is a scion of a family whose name became identified with Iowa history nearly three-fourths of a century ago and there can be no measure of doubt or uncertainty in pronouncing as to the value of his service during the long years of a signally active and worthy career. He achieved distinctive success as a representative of the pedagogic profession, which he followed for forty years, has served twenty-eight years in the office of justice of the peace and his knowledge of the law is such that he has proved far more eligible for admission to the bar than many who have gained this distinction. He has long handled legal matters of a minor order and his advice and counsel have been sought in connection with the adjudication of matters of much importance. He maintains his home in the village of Littleport, where he has served consecutively in the office of justice of the peace since 1878 and where he has the distinction of being the oldest incumbent of such magisterial office in the county, in point of years of service. He has held practically all other offices in Lodomillo township and is now the efficient township clerk. Silas Marion Stalnaker was born at Greeley, Delaware county, Iowa, on the 18th of March, 1849, and is a son of James and Elizabeth (McLane) Stalnaker, both natives of Virginia and representatives of sterling families early founded in the historic Old Dominion. The lineage of the father includes both English and German strains, and that of the mother traces back to staunch Scotch-Irish origin. James Stalnaker was one of the very early pioneer settlers of Iowa, as he established his residence in Scott county, this state, in the year 1842, when the state was still on the very frontier of civilization. Later he went to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he remained about eighteen months, and at the expiration of this period, in 1846, he returned to Iowa and established the family home at Greeley, Delaware county, near which place he obtained land and engaged in farming, as one of the early exponents of agricultural industry in that section of the state. He was a man whose sterling attributes of character well equipped him for the responsibilities and vicissitudes of pioneer life, and his name merits a place of honor on the pages of Iowa history. His death occurred on the 7th of September, 1875, and his wife, who had been his devoted helpmeet, was summoned to eternal rest on the 28th of June, 1877.



Henry P., the eldest of their eight children, is now living retired at Arlington, Fayette county, this state; William is a resident of Cox Creek, Clayton county; Silas M., of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Emeline is the wife of William Rounds, of Oklahoma; John E., who resides at Strawberry Point, has the honor of being the oldest school teacher in Clayton county; Solomon is deceased; Millard F. is a resident of Marshalltown, Iowa; and Virginia is deceased. Silas M. Stalnaker acquired his early education in the pioneer schools of Iowa, and that he made good use of the advantages thus afforded him is shown by the fact that he early proved himself eligible for service as a teacher. In the district school his seatmate at one time was Hon. Charles H. True, who later attended college and who became a citizen of prominence and influence. Mr. Stalnaker was denied collegiate advantages, but to whom life has ever been a school and through his broad experience and his association with men and affairs he has effectually overcome this seeming handicap of earlier years. At the age of twenty years he became a successful and popular teacher in the schools of Iowa, and he continued his earnest and valued services in the pedagogic profession for forty years. Virtually all of this service was given in his native commonwealth, but for two and one-half years he was engaged in teaching in the state of Oregon, where he had the distinction of being principal of the schools of Bandon, the town that is the most westerly incorporated town in the United States. Mr. Stalnaker has long been one of the well-known and highly honored citizens of Clayton county, where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances, and he has practiced law in a minor way for fully thirty-five years. He is now the dean of the justices of the peace in this county, as previously noted and is the incumbent also of the office of town clerk. He was the census enumerator for Cox Creek township in 1890 and in 1900. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he has been an effective advocate of its principles and policies. On the 16th of August, 1897, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Stalnaker to Miss Anna Gottschalk, who was born and reared in Clayton county, and they have two children, Minerva M., who was born October 31, 1900, and Carroll C., who was born October 24, 1910.

**George O. Steward** has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a lad of twelve years and is now one of the progressive and successful agriculturists and stock-growers of Cass township—a sterling citizen who is fully entitled to representation in this history. He was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin, on the 28th of March, 1863, one of a family of eight children, of whom five are still living. His parents were James and Mary (Stroud) Steward. James Christopher Steward was born August 7, 1837, at Marietta, Ohio, and at the age of four, his father having passed away, he came with his mother and younger sisters to Madison, Wis., moving to Sauk county, Wisconsin, when he was 17 years of age. Mary Content (Stroud) Steward was born Jan. 27, 1840, at Erie, Pennsylvania. She came to Wisconsin with her parents and settled on

a farm near Sandusky, James and Mary (Stroud) Steward were married March 18, 1858, at Lime Ridge, Wisconsin. They were both raised and obtained their education at the schools in that vicinity. They continued their residence in the Badger state until June, 1875, when they came to Clayton county, Iowa, and settled on a farm in Cass township, where they passed the remainder of their lives. He whose name introduces this article gained his rudimentary education in the schools of Wisconsin and after the removal of the family to Clayton county he here continued his studies in the public schools until he had fortified himself in the learning that has proved of definite value to him in connection with the practical affairs of a successful career. He remained at the parental home until he had attained to his legal majority and thereafter he was engaged for several years in independent farming operations on rented land. In 1900 he purchased the land which he has developed into his present fine farm of fifty-five acres. The land was still covered with timber when it came into his possession and he has not only cleared the farm and brought it under effective cultivation, but has also provided it with substantial and modern buildings, including an attractive residence, and has shown much discrimination and enterprise in keeping the place up to a high standard. Mr. Steward is a Republican in his political adherence and is serving in 1916 as township assessor. At Strawberry Point he is affiliated with lodge No. 75 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in the same he has passed all of the official chairs. He takes loyal interest in those things that touch the community welfare and served several years as a school director of his district. In 1887 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Steward to Miss Ida Stringer, who was born in Kane county, Illinois, and who is a daughter of John J. and Hattie M. (Joy) Stringer, natives respectively of New York state and Vermont. The parents of Mrs. Steward became pioneers in Kane county, Illinois, where the death of the mother occurred, the father later bringing his family to Clayton county, Iowa, where he passed the remainder of his life. Of the family of twelve children Mrs. Steward was the third in order of birth, and of the number, eight are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Steward attend and give support to the Methodist Episcopal church at Strawberry Point. They have three children; Nellie is the wife of George Stamp, of this county; Howard, who was graduated in the high school at Strawberry Point, is associated in the work and management of the home farm; and Helen is (in 1916) a student in the high school.

**Arthur H. Stickford** is one of the vigorous young native sons of Clayton county who is here bringing to bear the most approved scientific methods and effective facilities in carrying forward his well ordered activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower, and he is the owner of one of the fine landed estates of Garnavillo township, where he stands forth as a progressive and loyal citizen and business man of the younger generation and where he has the ideal civic status that renders most consistent his specific recognition in this history of his native county. Mr. Stickford was born on the

old homestead farm of his parents, in Garnavillo township, and the date of his nativity was November 4, 1881. He is the elder of the two children of William and Louisa (Matt) Stickford, and his brother, William W., is now a resident of Jones county, this state. The marriage of the parents was solemnized in Clayton county, where the mother was born and reared, her parents having been early pioneer settlers of this now favored section of the Hawkeye state. William Stickford was born and reared in the state of Indiana and many years ago he became one of the honored and successful exponents of agricultural enterprise in Clayton county, where he continued his residence until his death, as one of the prominent and influential citizens of Garnavillo township, where he died, having attained a venerable age and where his widow still maintains her home. In the public schools of his native county Arthur H. Stickford continued his studies until he had completed the curriculum of the Garnavillo high school, and thereafter he was signally favored in being able to avail himself of the splendid advantages of the Iowa State Agricultural College, at Ames, in which splendid institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1903 and from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Science. Thus admirably fortified for service as a representative of the most modern ideals and methods of scientific agriculture and stock-raising, Mr. Stickford effected soon after his graduation the purchase of his present fine estate of two hundred and thirty-five acres, in Sections 13 and 18, Garnavillo township, where he finds ample scope for his effective operation along the lines of diversified agriculture and the raising of high-grade livestock, his holdings being still further augmented by the ownership of ninety-three acres of valuable timber land, in Section 16 of the same township. The permanent improvements on his farm are of the best modern type and include a handsome house that makes an ideal rural home. Mr. Stickford is vice-president of the Farmers' State Bank at Garnavillo, in the organization of which he took part, and is a director of the Farmers' Commission Company. His political predilections are indicated by the staunch support which he accords to the Republican party, and the year 1916 finds him giving efficient service as president of the school board of his district. He and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Garnavillo and are popular in the representative social life of their community. In February, 1904, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Stickford to Miss Alvena Brandt, who was born and reared in this county, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Neimann) Brandt, concerning whom specific mention is made on other pages of this work, in the sketch of the career of their son Elmer. Mr. and Mrs. Stickford have a winsome little daughter, Ruth M., who was born October 3, 1906.

**J. H. H. Stiehl** is the only child of the late John H. and Anna (Zucker) Stiehl and was born in Garnavillo township, Clayton county, on the 20th of April, 1862, within a short period after his parents had established their home on a pioneer farm in that township, their immigration to America from their native Germany having taken place in the year 1861. The house in which the subject



of this review was born was a modest log cabin of the true pioneer type, and the structure had little to foreshadow the splendidly improved farm which the old homestead place now represents and which the only son of this sterling pioneer couple still owns. John H. Stiehl was well equipped in mental and physical powers to bear the burdens and responsibilities of pioneer life and under his energetic and well ordered control and management he developed a fine farm and became one of the substantial and influential citizens of Clayton county, where he continued to reside on his old homestead until his death, which occurred when he was 63 years of age, his devoted wife, who had been his loyal help-meet, having passed to the life eternal at the age of 75 years. He whose name initiates this review was reared to maturity under the invigorating discipline of the home farm and in the meanwhile he profited duly by the advantages afforded in the common schools of the locality. After the death of his honored parents he came, as the only child, into sole ownership of the home farm, which he still has in his possession and which is endeared to him by the gracious memories and associations of the past. This fine domain is known as Cedar Brook Stock Farm, is eligibly situated in Section 23, Garnavillo township, comprises 200 acres and has the best of modern improvements of a permanent order. Mr. Stiehl gave special attention to the raising of high-grade stock in connection with diversified agriculture, and he still maintains a general supervision of his farm, which is one of the model places of the county and on which he and his wife continued their residence until 1914, when he purchased an attractive home in the village of Garnavillo, where they still reside and where he finds demand for his time and attention in the position of manager of the Garnavillo Co-operative Commission Company, of which he is one of the principal stockholders. He is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, has been influential in public affairs of local order, served for a long term of years as a member of the school board of his district and is now the efficient and valued incumbent of the office of trustee of Garnavillo township. He was prominently identified with the organization of the Garnavillo Creamery Company and served nine years as its treasurer. He and his wife are zealous communicants and liberal supporters of St. Paul's Lutheran church in their home village, and in their native county the number of their friends is virtually equal to that of their acquaintances. In the year 1883, shortly after attaining to his legal majority, Mr. Stiehl wedded Miss Mary Brandtmann, who was born in Volga township and who is one of the six survivors of the family of eight children born to Henry and Mary (Ties) Brandtmann. The parents were born in Germany and came to America and to Clayton county in 1861, the father being now one of the venerable pioneer citizens of the county, and having celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday anniversary in 1916, his wife having been about 80 years of age at the time of her demise. Mr. and Mrs. Stiehl are the parents of six children, concerning whom brief record is given in conclusion of this article: Anna is the wife of O. F. Schumacher of this county; Dr. William J. is a dentist by profession and is engaged in

successful practice at Provo, Utah; Alma is the wife of William W. Stickford of Monticello, this state; Carl J. has the active management of the old homestead farm of his father; Selma, at home, and Edna is a member of the class of 1916 in the Elkader high school.

**Fred W. Stoecker, D. V. S.,** has not only gained success and prestige as one of the representative veterinary surgeons of the younger generation in his native county, but has also had the good judgment to select as the headquarters of his professional endeavors the thriving and progressive little city of Guttenberg, where he controls a substantial and representative general practice. He was born in Jefferson township, this county, on the 25th of June, 1888, and is a son of George and Katherine (Mettler) Stoecker, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in Canton Berne, Switzerland. The father was reared and educated in his native land and was a youth when he came to America, in 1861, and established his home on a pioneer farmstead in Jefferson township, Clayton county. He became one of the prosperous farmers and stock-growers of the county and also developed a substantial enterprise in the buying and shipping of livestock. After his retirement from active labor he removed to Guttenberg, and here his death occurred on the 21st of January, 1910, his cherished and devoted wife having passed to the life eternal on the 21st of February of the following year, and both having lived earnest, cheerful and worthy lives, in harmony with the faith which they professed as devout communicants of the Lutheran church. George Stoecker was a man of steadfast rectitude in all of the relations of life, was a loyal and appreciative citizen of the land of his adoption, and his political allegiance was given to the Republican party. Of the family of eight children Dr. Stoecker of this review is the youngest; Rose is the widow of George Greenawaldt and maintains her home at Marcus, Cherokee county; Lillian is the wife of Herman Bachhouse, of Manly, Worth county, where also reside Bertha, who is the wife of Gottlieb Mueller, and Miss Catherine, who was the next in order of birth; Mattie is the wife of Albert Norby of Fort Pierce, South Dakota; George is a resident of Manly, Worth county; and Albert is now in the province of Saskatchewan, Canada. Dr. Fred W. Stoecker gained his preliminary education in the district schools of his native township and supplemented this by attending the public schools at Garnavillo. In preparation for his chosen profession he then entered the well-known McKillip Veterinary College, in the city of Chicago, and in this well ordered institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1912, and with the well-earned degree of Doctor of Veterinary Surgery. In the same year he engaged in the practice of his profession at Guttenberg, where he has developed a substantial business in which he specializes in the surgical department of his profession. In connection with his prosperous professional activities the doctor owns and conducts also a well equipped livery establishment. He is aligned as a loyal advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. On the 7th of November, 1912, was solemnized the marriage of Dr.

Stoecker to Miss Elsie Capelle, daughter of Gottlieb and Eva Capelle, of Adele, Wisconsin, and they are popular factors in the representative social life of their home community. They have no children.

**Rudolph J. Stoehr** is a native son of Clayton county and a representative of the fine German element of citizenship that has played a most important and benignant part in the development and progress of the county along both social and material lines. He is now engaged in the hardware business at Luana and is one of the leading merchants and popular and valued citizens of this vigorous village. Rudolph Joseph Stoehr was born at Garnavillo, this county, on the 18th of April, 1860, and is a son of George A. and Rosalind (Good) Stoehr, both natives of Germany, the father having been born in the Kingdom of Bavaria, August 26, 1833, and the mother having been born in Alsace-Lorraine, which was at that time a French province, but which became a part of German territory at the close of the Franco-Prussian war. George A. Stoehr came as a young man from his native land to America, about the year 1850, and became one of the pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa. He established his residence at Garnavillo, where he engaged in the jewelry business, as he had learned the jeweler's and watchmaker's trade effectually prior to his immigration to the United States. It is a matter worthy of definite historical record that he was the first jeweler to be engaged in business in Clayton county. In 1865 he disposed of his stock and business and removed to Elgin, Fayette county, where he engaged in the same line of enterprise and where also he eventually developed a substantial general merchandise business. There he remained as a representative business man and honored and influential citizen until 1914, when he met a tragic death in a runaway accident. His political allegiance was given to the Democratic party, he was affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and his religious faith was that of the German Lutheran church, of which his wife likewise was a devout communicant, she having been summoned to the life eternal in 1904. Of the children the eldest is Eugene, who is engaged in the jewelry business at Elgin, Fayette county; Rudolph J., of this sketch, was the second child; August A. is engaged in the drug business at Elgin; Lilla is the widow of L. B. Matton, and maintains her home at Elgin; George is deceased. He whose name introduces this article was about five years old at the time of the family removal to Elgin, where he was reared to adult age and where he gained his early education in the public schools. As a lad he was employed for a time in driving omnibus for an Elgin hotel, and thereafter he served as a clerk in his father's store. He then learned the art and trade of telegraphy, and for some time was employed as an operator by the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad Company. After severing this connection he held a position as an extra operator for the Northern Pacific Railroad, his services being in requisition at various points, when emergency demanded such interposition. In 1888 Mr. Stoehr returned to his native county and established his residence in the village of Luana, where for one year he was em-



ployed as clerk in the mercantile establishment of T. A. Killin. He then returned to Elgin, where for the ensuing twelve years he was successfully established in the grocery business. After disposing of this business he was for one year a traveling commercial salesman, and then, in 1904, came again to Luana, where he purchased the hardware stock and business of C. H. Overbeck. He has since continued this enterprise with marked progressiveness and attending success, his store being well equipped with a full assortment of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, ranges, etc. Enterprising policies and careful and honorable methods have conspired to develop for him a large and substantial trade, and he is one of the popular and influential merchants of his native county. Though never desirous of entering the domain of practical politics or of gaining public office, Mr. Stoehr is aligned as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and is liberal and public-spirited as a citizen. Both he and his wife are communicants of the German Lutheran church in their home village. March 29, 1895, stands as the date of the marriage of Mr. Stoehr to Miss Sophia Weihe, who was born and reared in Allamakee county, this state, and who is a daughter of Henry and Magdalena (Jacobs) Weihe, long well-known and honored citizens of Postville, that county. Mr. and Mrs. Stoehr have one son, Harvey Henry, who was born August 20, 1896, and who is now associated with his father's business. He was afforded the advantages of the public schools of Luana and in 1914 was graduated in the high school at Postville, Allamakee county. He remains at the parental home and is one of the popular young men of Luana.

**Charles B. Story** has attained to the patriarchal age of nearly ninety years and in his physical and mental vigor he gives splendid evidence of the value of right living and right thinking. He has proved in the years that have passed a most resolute and conscientious member of the world's noble army of productive workers, and after long and successful association with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-raising he is passing the golden evening of his worthy life in the gentle repose and grateful comfort that should ever crown a life of honor and usefulness. He has been a resident of Clayton county since 1865 and now lives in his pleasant village home at Edgewood, secure in the veneration of the community in which he has passed many years of his life. Mr. Story is a scion of the staunchest of New England stock, and the name which he bears became identified with New England annals in the colonial era of our national history. He was born in Franklin county, Vermont, on the 7th of March, 1827, and is the only survivor of the five children of Alvin D. and Lucy (Brown) Story, who passed their entire lives in the old Green Mountain state. He whose name introduces this article grew to manhood in his native state and profited duly by the advantages afforded in the common schools of the locality and period. He had in the meanwhile gained his full quota of experience in connection with agricultural industry, with which he continued his association in Vermont until 1865, when he came to Clayton county, Iowa, and established his

residence at Luana, where he remained two years. For the next year he was engaged in farming near the mouth of Turkey river and he then established his home at Edgewood, where he engaged in the grocery business for a short time, and then entered the hotel business, which he followed many years here in Edgewood, and where he has maintained his home during the long intervening years, during many of which he was actively identified with farm ownership and management in this part of the county. He has lived virtually retired since the early '90s. He is a veritable sage, whose advice and counsel have been sought by many younger men, to whom he has given aid through the medium of his long and varied experience and mature judgment. He served many years as justice of the peace and made the office justify its title. He has given unswerving allegiance to the Republican party and has always shown the courage of his well-taken opinions concerning matters of public import. He has long been an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was also his wife, who was his devoted companion and helpmeet until her death in 1893. In 1850 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Story to Miss Mary Howard, who likewise was born and reared in Vermont and who was a daughter of Calvin and Abigail Howard, who there passed their entire lives. Mrs. Story died, secure in the affectionate regard of all who had come within the compass of her gentle influence, and she is survived by three children—Albert, who is a resident of Iowa Falls, Iowa, and Anna, who remains with their venerable father in the pleasant home at Edgewood; and Mertie Peters, the wife of Andrew J. Peters of Edgewood.

**Charles A. Strien** has been a resident of Clayton county since 1894, and here has achieved through his own energy and well ordered efforts a large measure of success in connection with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing. He is now the owner of one of the fine farms of the county, the same comprising one hundred and one acres and being eligibly situated in Sections 7 and 8, Farmersburg township, with rural free mail service from the village of Farmersburg. Mr. Strien was born in Germany on the 31st of December, 1863, and is a son of Henry and Wilhelmina (Schade) Strien, who maintained their home in their fatherland until 1872, when the family came to the United States. The father first established a home in Nebraska, but two years later he removed to Missouri, where he continued his residence four years. He then returned to Nebraska, where he became a successful farmer and where his loved and devoted wife passed to the life eternal about seventeen years ago. He now maintains his residence in Nebraska, where he is living practically retired. Of the six children four are still living. Charles A. Strien acquired his rudimentary education in his native land and was a lad of about eight years at the time of the family emigration to America. He continued his studies in the schools of Nebraska and Missouri and early learned also the lessons of practical industry. He continued to be identified with agricultural pursuits in the state of Nebraska until 1894, when he came to Iowa and established his permanent

residence in Clayton county. Here he rented a farm for one year, at the expiration of which he purchased his present place of 101 acres in Sections 7 and 8, Farmersburg township, which he has developed into one of the fine farms of Farmersburg township and upon which he has made many substantial improvements, including the erection of good buildings. The farm gives patent evidence of the energy and thrift that have been brought to bear in its management, and the substantial success of the owner has been achieved by close application and worthy methods and policies. Mr. Strien gives his close attention to the supervision of his farm, but is also a director in a stock company at Farmersburg. In addition to his home farm he is the owner also of a well improved farm of eighty acres in Wagner township. All these accumulations represent the result of his own efforts and he is to be commended for his achievement as well as for his sterling character. He and his wife are zealous communicants of the Lutheran church at Farmersburg, and he is serving as one of its trustees. Though he has been animated by no desire for political office, he accords a staunch support to the cause of the Democratic party and is loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities. In 1887 Mr. Strien wedded Miss Alvena Radloff, who was born in Germany, one of the nine children of Fred and Marie (Henning) Radloff, who came to the United States in 1881 and established their home in Clayton county, where the father passed the remainder of his life and where the venerable mother still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Strien became the parents of nine children, concerning whom brief record is entered in conclusion of this review: Alvena E. is deceased; Lena M. is the wife of Eldo Kurdelmeier; Fred is a prosperous young farmer of this county; Minnie was graduated in the high school and in Decorah College, and is now a successful and popular teacher in the schools of her home county; Herbert and Alice remain at the parental home; the next child died in infancy; and Carl H. and Marie S. are the younger members of the home circle.

**Jacob J. Tayek** properly finds recognition in this work as one of the representative young business men of his native county, and he is senior member of the firm of Tayek & Burlingame, which owns and conducts a well equipped general merchandise business in the village of Froelich. On the old homestead farm of his father, one mile east of the village of Watson, this county, Jacob J. Tayek was born on the 22d of May, 1887, and he is a son of Anton and Anna (Lestina) Tayek, both of whom were born in Bohemia, Germany. They still reside on their fine homestead farm, and the father is now the owner of a valuable landed estate of three hundred and forty-six acres, the homestead place being in Giard township, where Anton Tayek is held in high estimation as an energetic and successful agriculturist and stock-raiser and as a loyal and progressive citizen. He was reared and educated in his native land and came to the United States about the year 1870. Soon after his arrival in this country he came to the West and established his home in Clayton county, where his initial service was in the capacity of a farm workman in the employ of others. His first pur-



chase of land was that of a tract of eighty acres, and as prosperity has attended his earnest and industrious efforts he has added to his possession from time to time until, as previously intimated, he is the owner of one of the extensive and valuable landed estates of Clayton county. Both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Catholic church at Monona and his political views are indicated by the staunch support which he gives to the cause of the Democratic party. Of the ten children all are living except the first and the last born—Mary and Michael; John is a resident of North McGregor, this county; Joseph and Benjamin are representatives of agricultural enterprise in Giard township; Frederick is a farmer in Monona township; Anton, Jr., is now a resident of the city of Dubuque; Jacob J., of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; Frank is identified with agricultural pursuits in Giard township; Elizabeth is the wife of William Kozelka, of Postville, Allamakee county. The excellent public schools of Giard township supplied Jacob J. Tayek with his early educational advantages, and he began when a mere boy to assist in the work of the home farm. Later he found employment on other farms in his native county and after being thus engaged for a period of four years he rented land in Giard township and initiated his career as an independent farmer. Later he removed to the city of Dubuque, where he remained until February, 1914, when he returned to Clayton county and became associated with his brother-in-law, Alonzo M. Burlingame, in the purchase of the general merchandise stock and business of T. F. Ruth at Froelich. They have since conducted the enterprise with marked vigor and progressiveness and their fair and honorable dealings have combined with effective service to gain to them a substantial and appreciative patronage, the junior member of the firm being individually mentioned on other pages of this publication. Mr. Tayek is a liberal supporter of those things that tend to advance the general prosperity of the community, is a Democrat in his political adherency and both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. June 16, 1908, recorded the marriage of Mr. Tayek to Miss Marjorie Burlingame, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Kostle) Burlingame, who still maintain their home in Giard township. Mr. and Mrs. Tayek have one child, Reuben, who was born April 4, 1914.

**Michael Thein** has passed virtually his entire life thus far in Clayton county and is an honored representative of one of the earliest of the pioneer families of this favored section of the Hawkeye state, his parents having established their home on an embryonic farm near the present thriving little city of Guttenberg, Clayton county, in 1850, and his father having been one of the stalwart and worthy sons of Germany who contributed in generous measure to the early development and progress of this county along both civic and industrial lines. He whose name initiates this paragraph has most effectively upheld the prestige of the family name, has for many years been one of the prominent and successful exponents of agricultural industry in Clayton county, and his was the dis-

tinction of having been one of the valiant and loyal young men who went forth from Iowa to render gallant service in defense of the Union during the climacteric era of the Civil war. Michael Thein is by no means a man without a country, but he can legitimately claim no land as the place of his nativity, for he was born on shipboard while his parents were voyaging across the Atlantic ocean from Germany to establish a new home in the United States. Thus it was that on a sailing vessel of the type common to that period, that Michael Thein was ushered into the world on the 29th of September, 1839, a son of Jacob and Marguerite (Stack) Thein, who were born and reared in Germany and whose ambition led them to sever the ties that bound them to their Fatherland and to seek a new home in America. They first located in the state of Ohio, where they remained about seven years, after which they resided four years in Wisconsin. In 1850 they came with their children to Iowa and numbered themselves as members of the sturdy German colony that was formed about the present town of Guttenburg, Clayton county. This section was then virtually on the frontier of civilization, and this honored couple lived up to the full tension of pioneer life, the while the father assisted materially in the development and upbuilding of Clayton county—a man of strength of physique and of mind and one whose course was guided and governed by the highest principles of integrity and honor, so that to him came the fullest measure of popular confidence and good will. He developed one of the productive farms of Volga township, was a staunch Whig, and later a Republican, in his political proclivities, and both he and his wife held membership in the Catholic church. Jacob Thein continued his residence in Clayton county for nearly half a century and was one of its most venerable and honored pioneer citizens at the time of his death, which occurred on the 16th of January, 1897, his devoted wife having been summoned to the life eternal on the 29th of April, 1895. They became the parents of six children, of whom the firstborn was Peter, who was a child at the time of the family immigration to America, and who served as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war, after the close of which he resumed his association with agricultural pursuits in Clayton county, the closing years of his life having been passed in Carroll county, Iowa, and his age at the time of death having been about sixty-five years. Adam, the second son, likewise went to the front as a member of an Iowa regiment in the Civil war, in which he sacrificed his life, as he was captured by the enemy and died while in durance at the odious Andersonville prison of the Confederacy. Michael, the immediate subject of this review, was the next in order of birth. Henry is a resident of Elkport, Clayton county. Josephine died when about sixty-three years of age. Joseph maintains his home at Elkport and is the youngest of the children. Michael Thien was reared under the conditions and influences that obtained during the pioneer epoch in the history of Clayton county, and he made good use of such advantages as were afforded in the schools of the locality and period. He continued to be actively associated with the work and management of his father's farm until

there came to him the call of higher duty, when he tendered his aid in defense of the nation's integrity. On the 14th of August, 1862, when twenty-two years of age, he enlisted as a private in Company D, Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he proceeded to the front and with which he continued in active service until final victory had crowned the Union arms. He was mustered out at Clinton, Iowa, on the 8th of August, 1865, with the rank of corporal and with a record that shall reflect lasting honor on his name. He took part in many engagements, including a number of the important battles marking the progress of the great fratricidal conflict. He was in the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, on the 15th and 16th of December, 1864, and on the latter day received a wound in the left arm. He assisted in the capture of Little Rock, Arkansas, on the 10th of September, 1863, and a brief record of the other actions in which he took part with his gallant regiment is here given: Fort De Russy, Louisiana, March 14, 1864; battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 9, 1864; Old Oak, Louisiana, May 18, 1864; Lake Chevat, Arkansas, June 1, 1864; Tupelo, Mississippi, July 14, 1864; Old Town Creek, Mississippi, July 15, 1864; Nashville, Tennessee, December 15-16, 1864; siege and capture of Fort Blakely, Alabama, April 9, 1865. In later years Mr. Thein has perpetuated the more gracious memories and associations of his military career by retaining active affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he holds membership at Elkport. It is interesting to record that he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and that during the long intervening years he has not wavered in his allegiance to the Republican party. After the close of the Civil war Mr. Thein returned to Clayton county, where he has continued to the present time as a prominent and resourceful representative of the great basic industry of agriculture, though he has now virtually retired from the more active and onerous labors that so long engrossed his time and attention, as he has sold his farm near Elkport and only retains a small plat of land. He is a broad-minded, loyal and public-spirited citizen who has inviolable place in the confidence and esteem of all who know him. As before stated, he is a Republican in politics. On the 12th of June, 1875, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Thein to Miss Katherine Berks, who was born in Germany, and who came with her parents, John and Sophie Berks, on their immigration to America, in 1867, the family home being established on a pioneer farm near Elkport, Clayton county, Iowa, and the parents having passed the residue of their lives as honored and valued citizens of this county. Of the children the eldest is Anton Berks, who now resides in Kossuth county, this state; Henry is deceased; Gerhardt resides at Wesley, Kossuth county; Mrs. Thein was the next in order of birth, and Annie is deceased. Concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Thein brief record is entered in the concluding paragraph of this review. Annie is the wife of Peter White, of Cedar county, this state; Josephine is the wife of Louis Benschneider, of Elkport, Clayton county; Bertha is the wife of Larkins Rutledge, of Elkport; Katherine is the wife of Henry Ort-



man, of Littleport, this county; Garfield is a representative physician and surgeon of his native county and is engaged in the practice of his profession at Elkport; Charles and Richard are deceased; Adelaide is a student at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and Alice is a teacher at home; Ethel M., who has likewise proved an efficient teacher, remains at the parental home, as do also Lillian R. and Arthur.

Allen C. Thoday claims the "tight little isle" of England as the place of his nativity, though prior to his birth his parents had been residents of the United States for a term of years, and as a youth of eighteen years, inspired by worthy ambition and resolute purpose, he left his native land and came to America and established his home in Clayton county, Iowa, where he has resided since 1885 and where through his own ability and efforts he has gained distinctive success as an agriculturist and stockgrower, the while his sterling character and civic loyalty have won to him the staunchest of friends in the state and county of his adoption. Mr. Thoday was born at Cambridgeshire, England, on the 12th of January, 1867, and is a son of John A. and Harriett (Facer) Thoday, who were there born and reared and whose marriage was there solemnized. They were young folk at the time when they came to the United States, in the '40s, and here they continued their residence until 1860, when they returned to their native land, where they passed the residue of their lives. Of their twelve children nine are living and of the number two are residents of the United States. To the schools of England Allen C. Thoday is indebted for his early educational discipline, and at the age of eighteen years he severed the ties that bound him to home and native land and set forth to seek his fortunes in America. Soon after his arrival he came to Clayton county, and for the ensuing nine years he here found employment at farm work. In the meanwhile he carefully conserved his earnings, and at the expiration of the period noted he found himself sufficiently fortified in a financial way to justify his purchase of his present fine farm, which comprises one hundred and eighty acres and which is situated in section 12, Sperry township, with service on one of the rural mail routes from the village of Volga. Mr. Thoday has added materially to the substantial improvements on his farm and has made it one of the productive and thrifty rural domains of Clayton county, the while his success has been the result of earnest and effective application and good judgment. He is one of the representative agriculturists and stockgrowers of Sperry township, is serving as school director, is a Republican in his political allegiance, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his family attend and support the Presbyterian church at Volga, though he was reared in the faith of the Church of England. In 1903 Mr. Thoday wedded Miss Hallie Sangston, who was born and reared in Clayton county, where her parents, John and Lillian (Bevins) Sangston, still maintain their home, the former having been born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Thoday have no children of their own but their home is brightened by the presence of their cherished adopted daughter, Hallie Allen Thoday.

**Christ Thoma** has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth to the present and has here found ample scope and opportunity for effective achievement along normal lines of enterprise, as indicated by the fact that he now has a well appointed and attractive general merchandise establishment in the thriving town of Garnavillo and has secure vantage-place as one of the representative business men and progressive and popular citizens of his native county. Mr. Thoma was born in Garnavillo, this county, on the 9th of June, 1874, and was but two years old at the time of his father's death. He is a son of William and Marguerite (Poesch) Thoma, both of whom were born in Germany. Upon coming to the United States, William Thoma proved himself an ambitious young man whose courage and determination were shown in definite action. He became one of the prominent and honored citizens of Clayton county and was engaged successfully in the general merchandise business at Granavillo at the time of his death in 1876. His widow survived him by more than thirty years and was a resident of Garnavillo when she too passed to the life eternal, on the 9th of November, 1908, as one of the venerable and loved pioneer women of Clayton county. Of the eleven children in the family John, Marguerite, William, and Paul are deceased, and concerning the others the following brief data are available: Frederick is a prosperous farmer near Clayton, this county; Annie is the wife of John Ihde, of Garnavillo; Rosina is the wife of Christ Schumacher, of Garnavillo; Paulina is the wife of L. H. Schroeder, of Guttenberg, this county; Maria is the wife of B. G. Tangeman, of McGregor, this county; Christ, the immediate subject of this review, was the tenth in order of birth, and Charles J., the youngest of the children, likewise is a resident of Garnavillo. On the old homestead farm which his father had acquired, near Garnavillo, Christ Thoma was reared to maturity, the while he availed himself of the advantages of the public schools of the village noted. At the age of twenty-five years, and shortly after his marriage, he engaged in general teaming work, to which line of business he devoted his attention for a few years. For six years thereafter he was employed as a clerk in the Meyers general store at Garnavillo, and after severing this association he opened a meat market in this village. He built up a prosperous business and continued to conduct the market about four years. In 1910 Mr. Thoma erected a modern brick building of two stories, twenty-four by fifty-six feet in lateral dimensions, and in the same he has since conducted a general merchandise business of substantial and representative order, his establishment being well equipped in all departments and controlling a large and appreciative patronage. In politics Mr. Thoma is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party, and while he has had no ambition for public office he served with marked efficiency as a member of the village council, a position of which he was the incumbent for four terms. He holds membership in the Modern Brotherhood of America and both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church. On the 25th of August, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Mr.

Thoma to Miss Laura Tangeman, who is likewise a native of Clayton county and who is a daughter of William and Matilda (Kettler) Tangeman, who now reside at Garnavillo. William Tangeman and his wife are both natives of Ohio, and he was a lad of six years when he accompanied his parents on their immigration from the old Buckeye state to Iowa, the journey having been made with team and wagon and his father having become one of the early settlers and pioneer farmers of Clayton county. William Tangeman was long numbered among the substantial agriculturists and stock-growers in Read township, where he accumulated a valuable landed estate, and, now venerable in years, he is living in well earned retirement at Garnavillo. Of his two children, Mrs. Thoma is the elder, and the younger is Irene, who remains at the parental home. Mr. and Mrs. Thoma have two children—Willis Frederick, who was born August 12, 1900, and Minerva Marguerite Matilda, who was born August 14, 1902. The family home in Garnavillo is known for its gracious hospitality.

William H. Thomas merits recognition as one of the substantial farmers and honored and influential citizens of Clayton county, and he is the owner of a valuable and well improved landed estate of three hundred and seven acres but a few miles distant from Waupeton, which is his postoffice address. He was born in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, on the 23d of October, 1866, and is son of William J. and Maria (Schleuter) Thomas. The father was born in Germany, on the 10th of June, 1819, and was there reared and educated. On the 15th of July, 1854, he set sail for America, and soon after his arrival he established his residence in the city of St. Louis, where he found employment in a feed store. Near St. Louis he finally purchased a farm, but the major part of the same was virtually swept away by a severe flood, entailing practically an entire loss of the property. In 1872 William J. Thomas came with his family to Clayton county and purchased a farm near Buena Vista, where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, his death having occurred in 1891. Both were earnest communicants of the Lutheran church, in which he served as trustee, and his political support was given to the Republican party. Of the children the eldest is Anna, who is the wife of Herman Albert; Minnie is the wife of Christ Riechman; Emma is the widow of Ira Kelsey of Buena Vista, and William H., of this sketch, is the only son. He whose name introduces this article was a lad of about six years at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, and here he acquired his youthful education in the public schools of Buena Vista. He continued his association with the work of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-six years, when he purchased a portion of his present fine landed estate of three hundred and seven acres, upon which he has since resided and which he has developed into one of the many splendid farms of the county. He is a stockholder in the bank of Holy Cross, is president of the Mineral Point Farmers' Telephone Company, and is vice-president of the Dubuque Mercantile Company, connections that indicate him as one of the substantial capitalists of Clayton county.



Mr. Thomas is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party, and he served four years as township trustee, besides which he has given long and effective service as a member of the school board. Both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the German Lutheran church. March 1, 1892, recorded the marriage of Mr. Thomas to Miss Anna Kelsey, who was born at Genoa, Wisconsin, on the 20th of August, 1874, and who is a daughter of Ira and Louisa (Eck) Kelsey, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Minnesota. Mr. Kelsey was for a number of years engaged in railroad work and was a resident of Buena Vista, this county, at the time of his death, his wife having passed to the life eternal in 1882. Of their ten children all are living except one. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have seven children, all of whom still remain at the parental home, namely: William, Elmer, Carlie, Amanda, Freda, Clarence and Irene.

**Lars W. Thompson**, a native son of Clayton county and a scion of one of its honored pioneer families, has made his influence potent in connection with civic affairs and industrial and business activities in the county, and is today one of the leading men of affairs in the thriving village of Farmersburg, where he is the efficient and popular cashier of the Farmersburg Savings Bank, one of the substantial financial institutions of the county, and where he is a director and the treasurer of the Farmersburg Grain Company, of which he was one of the organizers and incorporators. He is treasurer also of the Farmersburg Co-operative Commission and of the independent school district of Farmersburg and Wagner. He is a wideawake and progressive business man, a loyal and public-spirited citizen, and is consistently given specific recognition in this history of his native county. Mr. Thompson was born in Wagner township, this county, on the 6th of April, 1873, and is a son of William and Barbro (Lunda) Thompson, both natives of Nummedal, Norway, their marriage having been solemnized in Iowa, where the father established his home in 1854, the mother having become a resident of Iowa in 1852, when her parents became pioneer settlers. William Thompson was born March 4, 1818, and was reared and educated in his native land. In 1854 he established a home in Clayton county, Iowa, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 14, Wagner township. Later he added gradually to his holdings until he became the owner of a valuable landed estate of two hundred and sixty acres, in sections 14, 22 and 23, Wagner township, where he continued his successful activities as an agriculturist and stockgrower until the close of his long and useful life. He died at his old homestead place on the 31st of October, 1902, and there his widow continued her residence until she too was summoned to eternal rest, her death having occurred October 5, 1906. Both were earnest and zealous communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their lives were marked by unassuming integrity of purpose and by kindness and consideration that gained to them the high regard of all who knew them. Their marriage was solemnized in the year 1859, and of their eight children six are living: Thov, Rachel, Hans, Herbran, William and Lars. Julia

died in childhood and Gunder was a resident of Hot Springs, Arkansas, at the time of his death, which occurred December 23, 1914. Lars W. Thompson acquired his early education in the district schools of his native township and supplemented this by an effective business course in the Decorah Business Institute, from which institution he received a diploma on the 23d of March, 1894. From that time forward to 1902 his time and attention were given at varying intervals to farm work, to the buying and shipping of livestock, to serving as assistant postmaster and to clerking in general merchandise stores. In the autumn of 1902 Mr. Thompson established his residence at Farmersburg and became associated with his brother Herbran W. in the livestock business, under the firm name of H. & L. Thompson. In the spring of 1904 these two brothers bought out the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead farm of two hundred and sixty acres in Wagner township, and Lars W. removed to the farm, to the management of which he gave his attention for the ensuing four years, the while his brother supervised the livestock business in which they continued to be associated. In the spring of 1908 the brothers sold the farm and dissolved their partnership alliance, and Lars W. then accepted the position of cashier of the Farmersburg Savings Bank, in which office he has since continued his effective administration, as the active executive in managing the substantial business now controlled by the institution. His other business relations have been duly noted at an earlier point in this article. His political support is given to the Republican party and both he and his wife are earnest communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the faith of which they were reared. On the 24th of March, 1904, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Thompson to Miss Retelia Thovson, who likewise was born and reared in Wagner township, and they have four children—Blanche Lulu, Joyce Vivian, Lilian Ruth and Melva Rachel.

**Ole Thorson** is a native son of the Hawkeye state and a representative of the fine Scandinavian contingent of citizenship that has proved a most valued force in furthering the development and progress of this and other western commonwealths of the United States. He was born in Fayette county, Iowa, on the 7th of June, 1866, and he has been numbered among the independent and successful farmers of Clayton county for nearly thirty years. He is a son of Thor and Annie (Andrew) Thorson, both natives of Norway. The father was a young man at the time of his immigration to America, in 1850, and he established his home in Fayette county, Iowa, where he obtained land and became a pioneer representative of farm industry. He reclaimed and developed a fine property and continued his residence on his homestead farm until his death, when venerable in years. He and his first wife, Lizzie, became the parents of five children—Thor, who is a prosperous farmer in Marion township, Clayton county; Julia and Carrie, who died young; Lizzie, who is the wife of Rasmus Halverson, of Rock county, Minnesota, and Embric T., who likewise resides in that county. The subject of this review was the second in order of birth of the three

children of the second marriage of his father, and his widowed mother still maintains her home in Fayette county, as does also the older son, Andrew; Helen, the youngest of the three children, is the wife of John Staley of Fayette county. Ole Thorson gained his early education in the rural schools of his native county and continued his active association with the work of the home farm until 1884, when, at the age of eighteen years, he initiated his independent career by entering the employ of another farmer of his native county. He continued his services as a farm hand until 1887, when he purchased eighty acres of land in Marion township, Clayton county, where he began his successful career as a progressive and wideawake agriculturist and stockgrower. To this farm he eventually added by the purchase of an adjacent seventy-five acres, and there he continued operations until 1911, when he sold the property and purchased his present well improved and productive farm of one hundred and twenty acres, eligibly situated in section 8, Marion township, with mail service on rural route No. 4 from the village of Elgin. Mr. Thorson and his wife hold membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church, and his political support is given to the Republican party. January 11, 1887, recorded his marriage to Miss Carrie Gilbertson, who was born on the Atlantic ocean at the time of the family immigration to the United States. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Thorson the first born was Annie Paulina, who died in early childhood; Amelia Paulina is the wife of Elmer Larson, of Marion township, and Helen Theodora and Rosie Luella remain at the parental home.

**Edward B. Tourtellot.**—Clayton county has been favored in gaining the services of Mr. Tourtellot as a member of its corps of executive officers, and he is the efficient and popular incumbent of the position of county engineer, with ambition and energy that effectively supplement his thorough technical training as a civil engineer. He is a young man who has gained distinctive success in his profession, and that he has allied himself fully with the interests of Clayton county is indicated by his having become the owner and occupant of one of the attractive residences of Elkader, the judicial center of the county. He was born in Delaware county, Iowa, on the 20th of November, 1886, and is a son of S. J. and Ruth A. (Loomis) Tourtellot, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Ohio. Upon coming to Iowa they established their home in Delaware county, where they still reside. Of the nine children all are living except one. He whose name introduces this review gained his preliminary education in the public schools of his native county and early manifested definite scholastic ambition. In pursuance of higher academic studies he entered Lenox College, at Hopkinton, Iowa, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1907. Having formulated plans for his future career, he next entered the great University of Wisconsin, in the fair capital city of the Badger state, and there he completed a thorough course in civil engineering. He was graduated as a member of the class of 1910 and duly received his well earned degree of civil engineer. Soon after his graduation Mr. Tourtellot went to



the great iron region of the upper peninsula of Michigan and assumed a position as engineer in connection with the operations of the mines at Ironwood, where he gained valuable experience of a most practical order and proved his facility in the handling of important work along the line of his profession. He remained at Ironwood in the employ of the mining company until 1913, when he came to Clayton county and established himself in the practice of his profession at Elkader, where, before the close of that year, he was elected county engineer, of which important office he has since continued the efficient incumbent and in which he has had the supervision of much work of exacting demands. The political allegiance of Mr. Tourtellot is given to the Republican party, he is affiliated with the time honored Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife, who are popular factors in the social life of the community, are active members of the Congregational church at Elkader. In the year 1910 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Tourtellot to Miss Edith C. Anderson, who likewise was born and reared in Delaware county, this state, and who is a daughter of A. E. and Alice (Flint) Anderson, the former of whom was born in Sweden and the latter in the state of Iowa, where her parents were pioneer settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson now maintain their residence in Fayette county, this state, where he is a prosperous farmer, and they have four children. Mr. and Mrs. Tourtellot have a winsome little daughter, Virginia Anne, who was born September 20, 1913.

**John Toutsch**, prominent real estate dealer of Elkader, Iowa, was born in Germany, January 27, 1861, and was the son of Nicholas and Catherine Toutsch, also natives of Germany, the former dying there in 1870. The mother came to America, locating in Iowa, and died in Elkader, January 6, 1915. They were the parents of six children, the first three of whom died, leaving John, with whom this sketch deals, the eldest of those living, followed by Henry of Elkader, and Mary, now the wife of Ed. Hofer of the same place. John Toutsch came to Clayton county in 1880, engaging successively in farming, the lumber business, and again in farming, along with which he conducted the business of teaming. In 1909 he retired from farming and opened a real estate business in Elkader, which, with untiring zeal, he has developed into the largest and most successful of its kind in the city. In 1888 he was married to Alta Atwood, and to their union have been born five children: The first, a boy, died in infancy; Sarah is now the wife of John F. Jungblut of Elkader; Viva married to Henry Berghan of the same place, and Catherine and Josephine, deceased, who were twins. Mr. Toutsch is a consistent and intelligent Democrat in politics; is a Yeoman and a member of the Catholic church.

**Andrew A. Trygg**.—Clayton county may consistently be said to have been fortunate in gaining as able and worthy representatives of its agricultural interests the members of the sterling family of which Andrew Alfred Trygg is a scion, for this family stands forth as one of the staunchest and most valued of the Scandinavian element of citizenship in this county and its members have contributed much to the social and material progress and prosperity of

this favored section of the state. He whose name initiates this paragraph was born in Dalarne, Sweden, on the 28th of June, 1866, and is a son of Andrew and Anna (Hanson) Trygg, both natives of that same district of Sweden, where the former was born on the 15th of December, 1830, and the latter on the 1st of April, 1836. Andrew Trygg learned in his youth the trade of stone mason, to which he continued to devote his attention in his native land until 1885, when he immigrated with his family to the United States and established his residence in Clayton county, Iowa. He purchased a farm in Clayton township, and there continued his successful activities as an agriculturist until advanced age led to his retirement from the arduous labors that had long been his portion, and he now resides in the home of his son Eric, concerning whom specific mention is made on other pages of this work. His cherished and devoted wife passed to the life eternal on the 27th of February, 1913, a devout communicant of the Swedish Lutheran church, with which Mr. Trygg himself has been similarly affiliated from his early youth, his political allegiance having been given to the Republican party since the time he became a naturalized citizen of the United States. Of the children, the firstborn was Anna, who died in childhood; Andrew Alfred, of this review, was the second in order of birth; Eric is a substantial farmer of Mendon township and is individually represented elsewhere in this publication; and John now maintains his home in the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada. Andrew Alfred Trygg is indebted to the excellent schools of his native land for his early educational discipline and he was about nineteen years of age at the time of the family immigration to America. He took his part in the work of the homestead farm after the family had established a residence in Clayton county, and he proved his resourcefulness and ambition by effective work in this connection. In 1896 he purchased his present farm, which comprises one hundred and six acres and which is eligibly situated in Sections 10 and 3, Mendon township, and in proximity to the little city of McGregor, which is his postoffice address. On his farm Mr. Trygg has erected modern buildings, including an attractive residence, and all improvements combine with the general productiveness and thrift shown throughout the domain to make it one of the essentially model farms of the county. Of sturdy rectitude and integrity in all the relations of life, Mr. Trygg is a loyal and public-spirited citizen and though he has had no desire for political preferment he accords unfaltering allegiance to the Republican party and shows lively interest in all the things touching the communal welfare. At McGregor he is affiliated with the organizations of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are zealous communicants of the Swedish Lutheran church at that place, he holding not only the office of secretary of the board of trustees of the church but being also the earnest and valued superintendent of its Sunday school. On the 27th of August, 1896, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Trygg to Miss Ateina Susanna Leibrand, who was born in Clayton township, this county, on the 5th of November, 1875, and

who is the eldest of the children of George and Emeila (Haltmeyer) Leibrand, the former of whom died on the 17th of November, 1914, and the latter of whom remains on the old homestead farm in Mendon township. George Leibrand was born in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 31st of March, 1850, and was but two years old at the time of the family immigration to the United States. His father established a home in the city of Dubuque, Iowa, and there he was reared and educated, his age at the time of the family removal to Clayton county having been eighteen years. George Leibrand first purchased a farm in Clayton township, but later bought the homestead, in Mendon township, where his widow still resides. He was one of the honored and influential citizens of that township at the time of his death, was a Republican in politics and had served effectively as school director, with no ambition for political preferment aside from this. He held membership in the German Presbyterian church, as does also his widow. Mrs. Leibrand was born in Houston county, Minnesota, on the 30th of May, 1858, and her marriage was solemnized September 12, 1874. As previously noted, Mrs. Trygg is the oldest of the children; Augustine is the wife of John Trygg, of McGregor; John W. is now a resident of the Canadian Northwest; Viola is the wife of Albert S. Larson, of Clayton county; Sanford, Herman and Martin likewise have established their residence in Northwestern Canada; and Leona, Lavant and William remain with their widowed mother on the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Trygg have six children, all of whom remain at the parental home, and their respective names and dates of birth are entered in conclusion of this review: Amelia, June 12, 1897; Elmer, November 14, 1898; Marie, July 22, 1900; Oliver, August 2, 1905; Clifford, April 4, 1910; and Raymond, February 17, 1913.

**Eric Trygg** has been a resident of Clayton county since his early youth and is a member of a sterling family whose name has been conspicuously concerned with agricultural industry and civic interests in this county since 1885. He has manifested in his independent career the sturdy industry and virile independence eminently characteristic of the race from which he sprung, and has shown his loyalty and versatility by entering most completely and effectively into the progressive spirit of the land of his adoption. He is now the owner of one of the large and valuable landed estates of Clayton county and is one of the prominent agriculturists and popular and influential citizens of Mendon township—a man well entitled to definite recognition in this history of Clayton county and its people. Born in Dalarne, Sweden, on the 30th of April, 1870, Mr. Trygg is a son of Andrew and Anna (Hanson) Trygg, both likewise natives of that place, where the former was born December 15, 1830, and the latter on the 1st of April, 1836. Andrew Trygg, a stone mason by trade, immigrated with his family to the United States in the year 1885 and forthwith established his home in Clayton county, Iowa. He purchased a farm in Clayton township, where he achieved distinctive success as an agriculturist and stock-grower, and since the death of his loved wife he has lived



retired in the home of his son Eric, of this Review. He has been a lifelong communicant of the Swedish Lutheran church, as was also his wife, who was summoned to eternal rest on the 27th of February, 1913. Of the surviving children the eldest is Andrew A., of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this work; Eric is the second son; and the youngest is John, who is now a resident of Saskatchewan, Canada. Eric Trygg profited duly by the advantages afforded in the schools of his native land and was a lad of about fifteen years when the family came to America and established a new home in Clayton county. Here he assisted in the work of his father's farm until 1902, when he purchased the property, comprising one hundred and sixty acres. There he continued his successful activities until 1897, when he sold the old homestead to advantage and expanded his field of operations by purchasing his present fine farm of two hundred and eighty-five acres, in Mendon township. He has made numerous additions to the substantial improvements on the place and its every aspect denotes unmistakable thrift and prosperity. Mr. Trygg gives his attention to diversified agriculture and stock-growing, according to the most approved and modern methods, and makes somewhat of a specialty of the raising of Durham cattle. He is one of the vital and public-spirited citizens of the county, is a Republican in his political allegiance, is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and both he and his wife are communicants and zealous supporters of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he is serving as a trustee and also as a deacon. On the 11th of October, 1899, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Trygg to Miss Anna Christina Larson, who was born and reared in this county and whose parents, Ole and Anna (Solomon) Larson still reside in Mendon township. Ole Larson was born in Sweden, on the 3rd of January, 1847, and his wife was there born on the 9th of July, 1850, both having come to the United States when young. Mr. Larson became one of the representative farmers of Mendon township, Clayton county, where he is now living virtually retired. He is a staunch Republican in politics and both he and his wife are devout communicants of the Swedish Lutheran church. Of their children the eldest is Frank, who is a resident of the city of Rockford, Ill. May is the wife of James Armstrong, and they reside in the city of Chicago; Mrs. Trygg was the third child and was born January 5, 1875; Albert is a resident of northwestern Canada; Louis is a successful farmer of Mendon township; Bessie remains at the parental home; Ida is the wife of Victor Soderland of Chicago; Mathilda is the wife of Irving Wallace and they maintain their home at McGregor, this county; Zelma is the wife of William Harnoch, of Clayton township; Clara died in childhood; and Carl is a resident of the city of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Trygg became the parents of five children, concerning whom brief record is given in conclusion of this sketch: Florence was born March 13, 1901, and died January 30, 1902; Harold was born May 17, 1905, and died on the 31st of December, 1907; and the three surviving children are Frederick, born

December 14, 1906; Geraldine, born March 3, 1909; and Francis, born January 27, 1912.

**George R. Turner.**—During a residence of nearly half a century at McGregor, George Richard Turner has proved an influential factor in connection with the civic and material development and upbuilding of this attractive little city of Clayton county, where he has stood at all times an exponent of broadminded and loyal citizenship and where he was long and prominently associated with important business enterprises bearing upon the industrial and commercial precedence of this favored section of the Hawkeye state. He is a scion of a family that has had distinguished recognition in the Dominion of Canada and that is one of distinctively patrician lineage, both direct and collateral. In all the relations of a significantly long and useful career as a man of affairs, Mr. Turner has fully upheld the prestige of the honored name which he bears, and as one of the essentially representative and highly esteemed citizens of Clayton county he is specially entitled to specific consideration in this history. George Richard Turner was born in the fair city of Toronto, Province of Ontario, Canada, and the date of his nativity was May 31, 1848. Well may he take just pride in the record that links the family name with the ancient aristocracy of England, and though it is not within the province of an article or publication of this order to enter into extended genealogical details, there are certain family data that properly find place in this review. Robert John Turner, father of him whose name initiates this sketch, was a barrister of high intellectual and professional attainments and attained to much distinction as a member of the bar of the Dominion of Canada, his death having occurred in the city of Toronto, in the year 1873. He was a son of Rev. Richard Turner, a clergyman of the Church of England and rector of a parish in Great Yarmouth, England, his birth having occurred October 18, 1751, and he having passed to eternal rest on the 13th of October, 1835. This gentle and gracious clergyman had ample and authentic justification for his claim to being, through his paternal grandmother, a direct descendant of Eleanor, daughter of Ferdinand III, King of Castile, this daughter having become the wife of Edward I, King of England, in 1254, this monarch having died November 23, 1290, and his remains having been placed in Westminster Abbey. Robert John Turner, father of the subject of this review, was born in Beccles, Norfolkshire, England, in 1795. In 1828 he immigrated to America, and after passing a brief interval at Kingston, Ontario, and at Brantford, that province, he established his residence in the city of Toronto, where he passed the residue of his long and distinguished life and where he was summoned to eternal rest on the 2nd of January, 1873. He long held secure place as one of the representative members of the legal profession in the Dominion of Canada, practiced extensively in the courts of appeal and the court of chancery, and the records of the courts of the Dominion gave enduring evidence of his influential association with much important litigation. He was a lifelong friend of Canada's distinguished premier, Sir John A. Macdonald,



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and he was foremost in giving his influence and co-operation in the furtherance of political movements and civic enterprises advanced for the general good of the community. On several occasions he represented the United States government in international litigations. This strong and noble man who gained for himself much of distinction in the land of his adoption, acquired his preliminary education under the direction of private tutors and in private schools in his native county. He then entered the celebrated Harrow school for boys, and upon the completion of the curriculum of this historic institution of England he was matriculated in Cambridge University, in which he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Laws, as a member of the class of 1823. For his first wife he wedded Miss Emma Halworthy, who died in England within a comparatively few years after their marriage. About the year 1830 Mr. Turner wedded Miss Maria Patrick, whose father, Dr. Patrick, was a clergyman of the Church of England and who was a rector of a parish at Brantford, Ontario, at the time of his daughter's marriage. Mrs. Maria (Patrick) Turner passed to the life eternal in 1843, in the city of Toronto. Of the four children of this union the eldest was Maria, who became the wife of Rev. Alfred Washington Boulton, who was a clergyman of the Church of England and who was on the distaff side a kinsman of the Washington family of England, from whom George Washington descended, both he and his wife having continued their residence in Canada until their death; Mary Emma remained a spinster until her death, which occurred in 1907; Frank Edmund Prince, elder of the two sons, died in 1909; and Robert Charles, a civil engineer by profession, died in Bedford, England, in 1910. For his third wife Robert John Turner espoused Miss Nura Dorothy Raines, a daughter of Major R. A. Raines of the Royal Artillery, who named his daughter Nura in commemoration of the battle of Bridgeanura, Italy, in which he fought against the troops of Joseph Bonaparte, his name being recorded in golden letters in the archives of the Italian government. Mrs. Turner survived her honored husband and was called to the life eternal in 1885. Of this union were born three sons, and of the number George Richard, subject of this review, is the eldest; Thomas William, who was born in 1850, died in 1912; and Charles Conrad, who was born August 18, 1852, now resides in the old family homestead, "Bracondale," in the city of Toronto. George Richard Turner, of McGregor, Clayton county, Iowa, acquired his rudimentary education in private schools in his native city and at the age of ten years he entered the preparatory department of Upper Canada College, in which he continued his studies three years. Thereafter he attended the Toronto Grammar School, then conducted under the direction of the distinguished Dr. Howe, and later he completed a thorough commercial course, through the medium of which he fully qualified himself as an expert accountant. In 1867 Mr. Turner went to Nashville, Tenn., where for the ensuing two years he was employed as bookkeeper in the wholesale grocery house of Robert Thompson. He passed the succeeding year at his old home in Toronto, and he then went to the

city of Milwaukee, Wis., where he assumed a responsible clerical position in the office of Robert Eliot & Co., then the most important grain commission concern in the Wisconsin metropolis. Three months later, however, he carried out his ambitious purpose of seeking the better opportunities afforded for personal achievement and advancement in the state of Iowa, and on the 27th of March, 1870, he arrived in McGregor. On the first of the following month he here entered the employ of Bassett, Huntting & Co., in the capacity of bookkeeper, and with the exception of one year, which he passed in the city of Chicago, Mr. Turner continued his active association with this important and representative firm of grain merchants for more than forty-one years, the operations of the firm extending through the territory along the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway from McGregor to the Missouri River. Since severing his connection with this concern, with which he had long held an exacting and responsible executive office, Mr. Turner has lived in well-earned retirement in the city of McGregor, to which his loyalty and allegiance are unwavering and his appreciation of which has been fortified by the close association which has been his in connection with its development and upbuilding. He has taken deep interest in all things pertaining to the communal welfare and though he has had no ambition for public office he has given his earnest support to the cause of the Democratic party. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Protestant Episcopal church and he is prominently identified with the time-honored Masonic fraternity, in which he is affiliated with Bezer Lodge, No. 135, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons; Clayton County Chapter, No. 27, Royal Arch Masons; Honorius Commandery, No. 8, Knights Templar; DeMolay Consistory, Ancient, Accepted Scottish Rite, in the city of Clinton, Iowa; and El Kahir Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Cedar Rapids. Mr. Turner is a man of fine presence and his splendid mental and physical powers denote that his has been a career of right living and right thinking, so that he is the possessor of that great desideratum, *mens sana in corpore sano*—a sound mind in a sound body. In his youth and early manhood he gained no little distinction as an all-around athlete, and he still takes a lively interest in high-grade athletic sports. In former years he had few equals in both single and double sculling, through his association with which branch of aquatic sports he won many trophies at events held in different parts of the country, his favored distance in sculling contests being two miles, and in his possession at the present time being twenty-nine handsome trophies which he has won and upon which he places high valuation. In the year 1871 Mr. Turner wedded Miss Cordelia E. Wyatt. Of the three children of this union the eldest is Marie Ruby, who is the wife of W. W. Ball, of Seattle, Washington. Robert Frank, whose death occurred May 12, 1912, was known for his high scholarly attainments, and as a youth he passed with special distinction the examination for admission to the United States Naval Academy, at Annapolis. As a cadet of this institution he was taken severely ill while off the coast of



Africa, on a training cruise, and he never recovered his former physical vigor, though he lived several years after his return to the United States. On the 5th of November, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of George R. Turner to Miss Christina Katherine Gebhardt, daughter of John Gebhardt, of Giard, this county. The names and respective dates of birth of the children of this union are here indicated: Charles John, September 6, 1903; Nura Dorothy Raines, March 5, 1905; Frank, June 10, 1908; Mary Emma, October 3, 1909; John Patrick, March 17, 1913; and George Richard, Jr., August 29, 1915. In 1911 Mr. Turner donated to the city of McGregor a plot of ground as a perpetual playground for the town of McGregor, which is now used as a baseball ground.

**Charles M. Upton** is consistently to be given recognition as one of the sterling citizens and representative farmers of his native county, his birth having occurred at Elkader, the county seat, on the 5th of February, 1874. He is a son of John F. and Amelia (Russell) Upton, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Pennsylvania. John F. Upton was a child at the time of his parents' emigration to America and he has been a resident of Clayton county since his boyhood. He became one of the prosperous farmers of Wagner township and since his retirement from active labors he and his wife have maintained their residence at Elkader. In that thriving little city also resides Edward, the eldest of their children; Julia is the wife of James Kelleher, of Clermont, Fayette county; William is deceased; Emma is the wife of Wallace Lamphier, of Elkader; and the subject of this review is the youngest of the number. Charles M. Upton profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools of his native county and continued his active association with the work of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of thirty years. He passed the ensuing four years in South Dakota and then returned to the home farm, which he rented and to the management of which he applied himself until 1912, when he purchased his present well improved farm in Section 25, Highland township, where he is carrying on most successful operations as an agriculturist and stock-raiser. He takes loyal interest in community affairs, is independent of strict partisanship in politics and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. On the 3rd of October, 1906, Mr. Upton wedded Miss Elsie M. Adams, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of Charles H. and Violette (McKinney) Adams, the former a native of Clayton county, where his parents settled in the early pioneer days, and the latter a native of the state of Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Adams maintain their residence on their fine farm, in Highland township, and of their children Mrs. Upton is the eldest; Henrietta is the wife of Edward Antrim, of Strawberry Point, this county; David William resides in the village of Volga, as do also Walter F. and Phoebe; and Elvina died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Upton have a winsome little daughter, Elsie May, who was born January 31, 1916.

**Joseph Vogt.**—As a young man of ambition and resolute purpose and as one well equipped for successful service as a skilled workman at the trade of stone mason, Joseph Vogt established his residence at Guttenberg, Clayton county, more than thirty years ago, and about three years after his emigration to America from his German fatherland. He has achieved large and worthy success within the intervening years and now controls a substantial and prosperous business as a contractor in bridge construction and in general cement construction work. He was born in Furstenthum, Leichstenstein, and the date of his nativity was January 15, 1859. His parents, Ferdinand and Louisa (Neff) Vogt, were born and reared in that same country, where they passed their entire lives and where the father was for many years engaged in the creamery and cheese business. Both were devout communicants of the Catholic church, and of their three children, Joseph, who is the eldest, is the only representative of the immediate family in the United States, his brother and sister, Catherine and Ferdinand, still remaining in their native land. In the excellent schools of his old home district Joseph Vogt gained his early education, and as a youth he there served a thorough apprenticeship to the trade of stone mason. In 1881, as a young man of twenty-three years, he came to America and established his home at Dubuque, Iowa, in which city he continued in the work of his trade until 1884, when he came to Clayton county and established his permanent home at Guttenberg. As a skilled artisan at his trade he eventually developed a prosperous contracting business, and in the later years he has achieved special prominence and high reputation as a contractor in the varied lines of concrete or cement construction work, including that of architectural order, the while he gives special attention to contracting in the erection of bridges of the best modern type. He is one of the substantial business men and popular and valued citizens of Guttenberg, where he served 3 years as a member of the City Council and where he is always ready to give his support to measures and enterprises advanced for the general welfare of the community. His political proclivities are indicated in his loyal support of the cause of the Democratic party; he is a communicant of the Catholic church. In February, 1888, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Vogt to Miss Augusta Olendorf, who was born in Jefferson township, this county, in 1867, a daughter of Henry and Mina (Rusch) Olendorf, sterling pioneers of that township. Mr. and Mrs. Vogt have three children, all of whom remain at the parental home—William, Ferdinand and Rose.

**Bernard A. Voss** is one of the successful business men and popular citizens of his native county and though his experience has covered association with life in various other states of the Union he has not bated his allegiance to his home county, and is now associated with his brother Frederick in the conducting of a substantial general merchandise business in the village of Garber. He was born on a farm in Jefferson township, this county, on the 22d of October, 1878, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Ostermann) Voss, both of whom were born in Germany and the mar-

riage of whom was solemnized in Clayton county. Henry Voss was reared and educated in his native land and as a young man he came to America and established his home in Clayton county. He first settled at Guttenberg, and eventually he became one of the prosperous farmers of that vicinity, where he continued his residence until his death, which occurred when he was about 66 years of age. His widow is still living and is one of the vigorous and highly esteemed pioneer women of the county in which the major part of her life has been passed. She is a devout communicant of the Catholic church, as was also her husband. Of their children the eldest is Henry, who is successfully identified with agricultural pursuits in this county; Herman is a farmer of Volga township; Bernard, of this review, was the next in order of birth and with him is associated in business his next younger brother, Frederick; Lizzie is the wife of Charles Zittergreen, of Volga township; Joseph is a representative of agricultural industry in his native county; and Annie is the wife of Charles Weber, of Seattle, Washington. Bernard A. Voss gained his early education in the public schools of Clayton county and incidentally acquired due experience in connection with the work of the home farm. Upon attaining to his legal majority he went to Nebraska, and after having there been employed at farm work for a few months he went to the north-western part of Iowa, where he began working at whatever he found to do. He then returned to Clayton county, where he purchased a farm of three hundred and thirty-two acres in Volga township. After giving his active supervision to the operations of this farm for a period of four years he sold the property, and during the ensuing summer he made a rather extended pleasure tour, in which he visited Nevada, Washington, California and other states of the west. He then returned to Clayton county and formed a partnership with his brother Frederick in the general merchandise business at Garber, where they have conducted a substantial and prosperous enterprise in this line since 1909. His political support is given to the Democratic party and he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. On the 14th of June, 1910, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Voss to Miss Clara F. Weber, daughter of Conrad and Cecilia (Bigger) Weber, who were born in the United States of German ancestry, and who are well-known citizens of Clayton county. Mr. and Mrs. Voss have three children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here noted: Menlo, May 20, 1911; Victor, May 7, 1913, and Esther, May 7, 1915.

**Henry L. Waldo** is one of the prominent merchants and influential citizens of Edgewood, where he has a well equipped establishment of modern appointments and facilities and where he controls a substantial trade in the handling of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, ranges and various lines of supplies demanded in the erection of buildings and in equipping them with heating plants. He was born in Delaware county, this state, on the 17th of September, 1867, and is a son of Lucius H. and Martha E. (Mery) Waldo, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Ohio. The father was for a number of years engaged in farming, but he



eventually removed to Michigan, where he followed the same basic line of enterprise and passed the closing years of his life, Mrs. Waldo having passed away in Iowa before his removal to Michigan, both having been members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their four children, the eldest is Carrie, who is the wife of William E. Clute, of Earlville, Iowa; Horace is a prosperous farmer in Lodomillo township, Clayton county; the subject of this review was the third child, and the youngest, Permelia, died in childhood. Henry L. Waldo was reared to manhood on the farm owned by his father in Delaware county, and after attaining to his legal majority he initiated his independent career as a farmer in his native county. He continued his active and successful association with agricultural pursuits until about the beginning of the twentieth century, when he became associated with the operation of the mill of the Quaker Mill Company, at Manchester, the judicial center of Delaware county. In the meantime he became the owner of real estate in that thriving little city, and finally he traded the same for a stock of hardware at Edgewood, Clayton county, where he has since maintained his home and where he has continued the business with unequivocal success, his residence here dating from September, 1914, and it having been his to manifest lively interest in all things pertaining to the civic and material welfare and progress of the community with which he has thus identified himself and in which he has inviolable place in popular confidence and good will. His political alignment is with the Republican party; he was reared in the faith of the Methodist church. They have no children. On the 24th of October, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Waldo to Miss Kate B. Knight, who was born in Kossuth county, this state, and who is a daughter of Louis H. and Laura J. (Wood) Knight, both natives of Massachusetts and both representatives of sterling colonial families of New England. Mr. Knight is now residing in Edgewood, and his wife passed to eternal rest August 27, 1914, at their home in Edgewood. Of their ten children the eldest is Charles L., who is a resident of Delaware county; Lafayette D. is a representative farmer of Lodomillo township, Clayton county; Jennie A. is the wife of Charles R. True, of Arcadia, Nebraska; Jessie N. is the wife of James W. McDonald, of Edgewood, Clayton county; Albert E. is a farmer in Delaware county; Minnie A. is deceased; Mrs. Waldo was the next in order of birth; Frederick and Edward S. are deceased; Delmer S. is the youngest of the number and resides in Delaware county.

**Dr. John A. Walter**, easily the most prominent dentist in Clayton county, and now practicing in McGregor, was born January 9th, 1861, in McGregor, and is the son of Peter and Mary (Rice) Walter. Peter was born in Huckenheim near Heidelberg, Germany, and came to America with his parents at the age of seven years, settling at Sandusky, Ohio. In the public schools of that town he completed the prescribed course, after which he took a position as painter and decorator, which he held for some time. Learning of the opportunities to be found in the state of Iowa, he came to Dubuque in 1856, where he resided for one year, after

which he removed to McGregor, arriving at this point in 1857. He entered the painting and decorating business in connection with his brother, and later entered the furniture business, which they conducted up to the time of his death. November 20th, 1906, Peter Walter was the organizer and teacher of the famous Walter Family Band, which attained worldwide reputation. The especial feature was that Mr. Walter taught each of his children and had no outside assistance in bringing the band to its highest efficiency. They toured the country, especially the Mississippi valley, and were everywhere accorded a splendid reception. It is worthy of note that this was the first family band to appear before the American public and their repertoire was large and varied. In 1855 occurred the marriage of Peter Walter and Mary Rice also a descendant of a pioneer German family residing in Sandusky, Ohio, and they were blessed with seven children, Odilda, Matilda, John A., Emma, Anna, William and Hannah. John A. had his preliminary education in the public school of McGregor and entered high school and after graduation there he commenced the study of dentistry under Dr. A. O. Kent in McGregor, with whom he remained three years. On completion of his course he opened a dental office in McGregor, where he has been practicing his profession for the past 36 years. It is worthy of note in these days of western colleges that when Mr. Walter studied his profession that there were no dental colleges west of Ohio and the young dentists of the Middle West studied under the practicing dentists of the days. On November 18th, 1885, occurred the marriage of Dr. Walter and Odilda Bergman, one of the well-known Bergman family of McGregor, special mention of whom is made in another part of this volume. Six children have been born to them: Marguerite, Marie, Frederick, Odilda, Helen and William. John A. Walter has been prominently identified with the civic progress of McGregor and served the city as mayor from 1897 to 1911, inclusive, and was president of the League of Iowa Municipalities in 1903. He is a member of the Democratic party and was alternate to the Democratic convention at St. Louis in 1904, which nominated Judge Alton B. Parker for president. Dr. Walter is a member of Bezer Lodge, No. 135, A. F. and A. M., DuBuque Lodge, No. 297, of B. P. O. Elks; Itasca Lodge, No. 111, McGregor Encampment, and Canton McGregor, No. 8, I. O. O. F., and also a member of M. W. A., W. O. W., M. B. A., B. A. Y., and the Continentals.

**John G. Walters** purchased, shortly after the death of his honored father, the fine old homestead farm on which he now resides and which he maintains at the best modern standard of agricultural productiveness and as headquarters for the raising of the best types of Durham cattle, registered Poland China swine, and excellent draft horses. To the original homestead, which comprised one hundred and fifty-five acres, he added by the purchase of an adjacent tract of one hundred and twenty acres, and he is thus favored in being the owner of one of the specially well improved landed estates of Mallore township, the while his civic loyalty and progressiveness are reinforced by the definite appreciation which is his for his native

county and its manifold attractions and advantages. On his present farm, in section 5, Mallory township, John Gordon Walters was born on the 22d of November, 1863, and he is of remote Scottish ancestry, though both his paternal and maternal forebears came to America in the colonial days. He is a son of Andrew Jackson Walters and Malinda (Cooper) Walters, the former of whom was born in the town of Mason, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, on the 22d of February, 1822, and the latter of whom was born in Virginia, on the 7th of December, 1824. The parents were pioneers of Mallory township, Clayton county, and here the father was a sturdy and honored exponent of agricultural industry until his death, on the 10th of January, 1908, about one month prior to the eighty-sixth anniversary of his birth, he having been born on the birthdate of George Washington, the first president of the United States, and having been named in honor of another president, the doughty and firey soldier, General Andrew Jackson. Mrs. Walters preceded her husband to the life eternal by about a decade and passed away February 22, 1898—the seventy-sixth anniversary of the birth of her husband. Of their children the eldest is Henrietta, who resides at Garber, this county, and who is the widow of William McSperrin; Isaac N. maintains his home at Updegraff, this county; Lusetta is the wife of Jacob Schweikert, of Elkport, this county; Alexander C. likewise remains in his native county, his home being at Strawberry Point; James M. is deceased; Jefferson resides at Guttenberg, this county; Martha J. is the widow of Silas Bowman and resides at Guttenberg, and the subject of this sketch was the eighth and last child. John G. Walters is indebted to the schools of Mallory township for his early educational advantages and from his youth to the present time he has continued to be actively identified with farm enterprise on the old homestead which was the place of his birth and which he purchased in 1909, the year succeeding that of the death of his father. Mr. Walters is a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, is serving as school director of the district in which he gained his early education, and he is affiliated with the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Elkport. As a young man Mr. Walters wedded Miss Eva Hyde, who was likewise born and reared in Mallory township, and they have eight children, all of whom remain members of the ideal home circle, their names being here entered in respective order of birth: Earl, Marie, August, Lulu, Gordon, Clifford, Garland and Russell. Mrs. Walters is a daughter of the late James and Hannah (Brownfield) Hyde, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and who came to Clayton county in the pioneer days, the remainder of their lives having been passed on their farm in Mallory township, though he died in Seattle, Washington, while on a visit to his daughter, Mrs. Iva Hunt, while his wife died in Clayton county. Mr. Hyde was also a skilled workman at the coopers' trade.

**Lyman C. Wareham** is a native of Clayton county, where he was born July 29, 1856, and he is a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of this favored section of the Hawkeye state. He is now living virtually retired, with an attractive home at Strawberry



Point, and the gracious prosperity that is his stands in evidence of the success which he achieved as an exponent of agricultural industry and as a progressive merchant. He is a son of Conrad and Ann (Barrett) Wareham, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ireland. Conrad Wareham was born in the year 1819 and was sixteen years of age at the time of becoming a resident of Clayton county, in 1835. He enlisted as a soldier of the Union when the Mexican war was threatened, and he was stationed with his command at Fort Atchison, Iowa, at the time of his marriage. He died December 28, 1863. His widow was summoned to the life eternal on the 13th of December, 1875, and of their children the first two, Phoebe and Frances are deceased; George resides at Elkader; Julia is deceased; Lyman C., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Emeline is the wife of Philip Hickey and they reside in the state of Colorado; Virginia is deceased; Kate is the wife of William Hyde, of Oldham, South Dakota, and Conrad is deceased. By his first marriage the father had one son, John, and the latter is now deceased. Lyman C. Wareham continued his activities as a farmer and stock-raiser until he was thirty-four years of age, and thereafter he gave his attention to mercantile pursuits for many years—up to the time of his retirement from active business. He is the owner of a valuable farm of one hundred and twenty-seven acres in Boardman township, this county, and a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Putnam township, Fayette county, besides his attractive residence property at Strawberry Point. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he is affiliated with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. In 1876 Mr. Wareham wedded Miss Melissa Wood. They became the parents of six children: Conrad is engaged in the drug business in Tama county; Mollie is deceased; William is individually mentioned on other pages of this publication; Hannah is the widow of Ernest Frederick and resides in South Dakota; John is engaged in the drug business at Reinbeck, Grundy county, and the sixth child died in infancy. On the 23d of December, 1914, Mr. Wareham contracted a second marriage, by his union with Miss Emma Gratke, who was born and reared in Delaware county, this state, a daughter of the late Samuel Gratke. Mrs. Wareham presides most graciously over the pleasant home and has made the same a center of generous hospitality and good cheer.

**William Wareham**, the popular proprietor of a well equipped billiard and pool hall and bowling alley in the village of Strawberry Point, has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of his birth, which here occurred on the 25th of January, 1882, and he is a son of Lyman and Melissa (Wood) Wareham, who likewise were born and reared in this county, where the respective families settled in the early pioneer period of the county's history. The subject of this sketch was fourth in order of birth in a family of six children and the eldest is Conrad, who is now a resident of Dysart, Tama county; Mollie died young and the next child was a son who died in infancy; Hannah resides at Timber Lake, South Dakota, and John F. is now a resident of Reinbeck, Grundy county, Iowa. William

Wareham continued his studies in the public schools until he had profited by the facilities of the high school at Elkader, and when about seventeen years of age he left the parental home and went to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he remained one year. He passed the following year in Sioux City, Iowa, from which place he went to Madison, South Dakota, whence, two years later, he returned to his native county and became associated with his father's mercantile business at Strawberry Point. This alliance continued five years and for seven months thereafter he was connected with a similar line of enterprise at Arlington, Fayette county. Thereafter he passed one year at Lamont, Buchanan county, and eighteen months at Crandall, South Dakota. For a period of about three years he resided at Florence, South Dakota, and he then returned to Strawberry Point, where, on the 1st of April, 1915, he established the business and amusement enterprise which he has since successfully conducted. Mr. Wareham has had no desire to participate in the practical activities of politics but gives a loyal support to the cause of the Democratic party. On the 4th of July, 1909, he wedded Miss Elizabeth Irene Manley, who was born and reared in Buchanan county, this state, and their two children are Irene Elizabeth and Conrad Lyman.

**Charles W. Washburn** owns and resides upon the fine old homestead farm which has represented his abiding place since his boyhood days and he has established vantage-ground as one of the substantial agriculturists and influential citizens of Mendon township, where he gives his close attention to the various operations of a well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He is properly to be designated as a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county and is a citizen well worthy of representation in this publication. Mr. Washburn was born in the town of Pittsburg, Coos county, New Hampshire, on the 5th of December, 1848, and is of staunch old New England lineage on the maternal side. He is a son of James and Betsey (Wright) Washburn, the former a native of Toronto, Canada, and the latter of Bradford, Vermont. James Washburn continued his association with agricultural pursuits in the old Granite state until he came, in the early '60s to Iowa and numbered himself among the pioneers of this commonwealth. He resided for a time in Fayette county, whence he came to Clayton county in 1865. Here he purchased a tract of land in Mendon township, where he developed a productive farm, and on this old homestead, now owned by their son, Charles of this review, he and his devoted wife passed the remainder of their lives, as well known and highly esteemed citizens of the county. Mr. Washburn was a stalwart Republican, was influential in public affairs of a local order and he served for a number of years as justice of the peace in Mendon township. Of the nine children the first was Anna, who did not live to attain adult age; Phoebe is the wife of Andy S. Barnes, and they reside in the city of Oberlin, Ohio; Malla A. and Etta are deceased; Hiram P. resides in the city of Seattle, Washington; Charles W., of this review, was the next in order of birth; George remains in Clayton county and is one of

the prosperous farmers of Giard township; Edward E. resides at West Union, Fayette county, and James is deceased. Charles W. Washburn was about five years old at the time of the family removal to Clayton county, and was reared to manhood on the homestead farm which he now owns, his educational advantages having been those afforded in the public schools of the locality and period, and his association with the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing having continued to the present time. Since he purchased the old homestead farm he has added materially to the improvements on the same and had made it one of the fine farms of this section of the county, his attention being successfully given to diversified agriculture and to the raising of good grades of live stock. He is a progressive man of affairs and a public-spirited citizen who shows local interest in all things relative to the communal welfare. He has had no ambition for public office and has held no preferment of this order save that of school director. He is found aligned as a staunch and loyal advocate of the cause of the Republican party. On the 23d of January, 1878, Mr. Washburn wedded Miss Anne Schriver, daughter of Charles and Laura (Wood) Schriver, of McGregor, this county. The parents of Mrs. Washburn were born and reared in the state of New York, where their marriage was solemnized, and they came in an early day to Clayton county, where they passed the residue of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Washburn became the parents of six children, the first-born, Elmer, having died in childhood; Herbert L. resides at Savannah, Illinois, is married and has one son, John Arthur; Alta is the wife of Charles Chamberlain, of Oelwein, Fayette county, Iowa; and Floyd, Verne and Pearl remain at the parental home.

**George P. Washburn**, who is now living retired in the village of Giard, is a popular representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Clayton county, within whose borders he has maintained his home since his early youth, and in connection with the all important industry of agriculture he gained marked success and prestige, as one of the essentially representative farmers of this favored section of the state. Thus gracious prosperity attends him now that he has retired, to enjoy the well earned rewards of former years of earnest toil and endeavor. Mr. Washburn was born at Pittsburg, Coos county, New Hampshire, on the 28th of March, 1851, and is a son of James and Betsey (Wright) Washburn, the former of whom was born at Compton, Province of Ontario, Canada, and the latter of whom was born at Bradford, Vermont. James Washburn made the old Granite state the stage of his activities as a farmer until 1858, when he came with his family to Iowa and became one of the early settlers in West Union, Fayette county, where he remained until 1866, when he removed to Clayton county and here purchased a farm in Mendon township. While in Fayette county he was engaged in the contracting business for a time, likewise conducted a boot and shoe store at West Union, besides further showing his enterprising spirit by becoming a manufacturer of wagons. In 1862 he established his home on a farm one-half mile west of West Union, where he remained until his removal to Clay-



ton county, in February, 1866. In addition to developing and improving his farm in Mendon township he conducted for two years a hotel. He was one of the sterling and honored citizens of the county, gained prosperity through his earnest and well ordered activities and continued to reside on the old homestead farm until his death, June 28, 1898, at the age of eighty-four years, five months and nine days. His devoted wife did not long survive him and was summoned to eternal rest on the 2d of July, 1901, at the venerable age of eighty-six years. Mr. Washburn was a man of strong and upright character and was not lacking in the elements of leadership in connection with community affairs. He was a stalwart Republican and was called upon to serve in various local offices in Mendon township, including that of justice of the peace. Of the children, the firstborn was Anna, who died in 1916 as Mrs. Chas. Woodard of West Union; Phoebe is the wife of Andy S. Barnes, of Oberlin, Ohio; Malla A. and Etta are deceased; Hiram P. is a resident of Seattle, Washington; George P., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Chas. W., is a resident of Mendon township and is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; Edward E. maintains his home at West Union, Fayette county, and James, who died in infancy. George P. Washburn was about seven years old at the time of the family removal from historic New England to Iowa, and he was afforded the advantages of the schools of West Union, Fayette county, as well as those of Mendon township after the removal of the family to Clayton county. He continued to assist in the operations of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, and thereafter was employed for a time as a farm hand. He next rented his father's farm for a period of one year, at the expiration of which he removed to Howard county and purchased a farm, to the cultivation of which he devoted his attention four years. After selling this property he passed a year in the state of Montana, and he then returned to Clayton county and purchased a farm in Giard township—the place now occupied by Benjamin S. Witter, who likewise is represented in this publication. On this farm Mr. Washburn made excellent improvements and there he continued his successful operations along the lines of diversified agriculture and stock-growing until 1911, when he sold the property to its present owner and removed to the village of Giard, where he has since lived virtually retired. He has shown himself a resourceful and energetic member of the world's great army of productive workers and has so ordered his life as to command the unequivocal respect and good will of his fellow men. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, his wife holds membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church. October 16, 1877, marked the celebration of the marriage of Mr. Washburn to Miss Ella L. Davis, daughter of John L. and Jane (MacLenahan) Davis, of Mendon township, and their devoted companionship continued nearly thirty years, the gracious ties being severed when Mrs. Washburn was summoned to the life eternal on the 1st of December, 1906. Of their children the eldest is Anna B., who is the wife of Dr. Benjamin F. Whitmore, of West Union, Fayette county; Sidney remains at the

parental home, and Irene G. is the wife of Morton H. Clarke, of McGregor, this county. On the 15th of September, 1908, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Washburn to Miss Mary Torkelson, who was born and reared in Fayette county, a daughter of Helge and Margaret (Anthenson) Torkelson, well known residents of Clermont, that county. Mr. and Mrs. Washburn have one daughter, Ella L., who was born March 1, 1911.

**William George Weisbeck** was born in Dubuque. Iowa, October 16, 1853, and was the son of George and Catherine Weisbeck, both natives of France, who came to America, settling in Rome, New York, in 1839, going thence to Cincinnati, Ohio, then to Dubuque, where Mr. Weisbeck opened a furniture factory. He continued in this business until 1859, when he sold it, to move to Spring Valley, Minnesota, where he bought a saw-mill and began again in the manufacturing of furniture, engaging in this work until his death, September, 1893. The mother died in Dubuque. She bore her husband eight children, six of whom are living. Our subject, William Weisbeck, remained at his father's home until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he began making his own way in the world by opening a furniture store in Spring Valley, Minnesota, for the sale of the products of his father's factory. Continuing in this line of work until 1880, he sought a larger field for his abilities in the lumber business, entering the employ of a La Crosse, Wisconsin, lumber company, and by his energy, intelligence and unfailing industry, made himself well nigh indispensable to his employers for a period of twenty-eight years. In 1909 he accepted the position of superintendent of the Menser Lumber Company of Dubuque, Iowa, in their Monona yards, which business he is still managing with credit and profit to himself and his employers. He took for his wife Catherine Cecilia Flynn, a native of New York state, but no children have been born to their union. Political conditions are of so broad a nature that they have led him to join the Independent party, and as one of its members he has served on the city council. He belongs to the fraternal organizations of Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Columbus, and is a member of the Catholic church.

**Frederick L. Wellman** was born in the state of New York, January 5, 1839, and is the son of Alva S. and Abigail (Sherman) Wellman; the father being a descendant of the early families of Connecticut and the mother of the best New York stock. Frederick L. obtained his preliminary education in the Cattaraugus county New York, public schools and later attended the seminary at Arcade, New York. He commenced his business life by being apprenticed to the cabinetmakers' trade in which he spent two years, and on the death of his employer, decided, on hearing of the opportunities of the great West, to try his own fortunes beyond the Mississippi. He went first to Monona, via Prairie du Chien, which was then the western terminus of the railroad. At Monona he engaged in farm work for a period of two years and then rented a farm of one hundred acres, which he conducted for nearly twenty years. During this time he acquired forty acres of the rich prairie

land of Northwest Clayton county, which tract was later platted into town lots and is now a part of the thriving city of Monona. In 1863, occurred the wedding of Frederick L. Wellman and Alice Redding, a daughter of Lewis and Nancy Redding, formerly of Indiana but among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county. To this union one son, Lewis A., was born. Mrs. Wellman passed to the other life in September, 1873. Mr. Wellman proved himself not only a good farmer but an enterprising and far-seeing business man and to his agricultural activities he added other business ventures. For some years he operated a threshing outfit and he also built and operated the first grist mill in Monona township; a mill which is still in operation. He has been one of the greatest factors in the upbuilding of the city of Monona and has done very much to make it the beautiful residence city and the active business center which it is today. It was Mr. Wellman who established the pumping station which supplies Monona with water and which is still owned by the Wellman family. He installed the gas plant of Monona and in 1914 instituted the electric light system which supplies the city with light. He was the builder of the opera house and has erected at least eleven other buildings which now grace the city, and his life work is intimately connected with the progress and prosperity of Monona from its earliest days. Now, hale and hearty in his seventy-seventh year, he is enjoying in retirement the fruits of years of well directed toil and energy surrounded by his grandchildren and gladdened by the universal esteem in which he is held by all who know him. His intelligence and capacity and his genuine interest in all that pertains to the welfare of his community have long been recognized by his fellow citizens and they have desired to utilize his abilities in the direction of their communal affairs. With this in view he was for twenty years elected a member of the board of education of Monona and for as many years served as one of the township trustees and was for two years elected mayor of Monona. Mr. Wellman took a prominent part in the councils of the Republican party and his intelligent party service was rewarded by his appointment as postmaster of Monona, in which capacity he served for eleven years. In all these varied and important positions he served with absolute integrity, with great executive ability and with a mind single to the faithful performance of his duties. Not only in the conduct of public affairs but in his daily life he has endeared himself to all by his kindness and his neighborly sympathy and helpfulness. He still takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of Monona and there are few residents of this city who have lived a more active and useful life. In many of the business enterprises above noted Mr. Wellman was capably assisted by his son, Lewis A., a short sketch of whose life is added herewith. Lewis A. Wellman was born at Monona, Iowa, December 11, 1864. He attended the public schools of Monona and had the honor of being one of the first to graduate from the Monona high school. The many business enterprises in which his father was engaged offered wide opportunity for the son and he soon became a partner with



his father and the firm name being F. L. Wellman & Son. For many years father and son worked together in the conduct of these successful concerns. F. L. Wellman gradually withdrew from the active management, and, in 1914, upon the incorporation of the Monona Light & Power Co., Lewis Wellman, in turn, delegated to his sons the labor of conducting the affairs of this company and the other large family interests. Lewis A. Wellman was married February 12, 1884, to Lena (Hagen) Wellman, and to them four children were born, as follows: F. Glenn, aged thirty years, who after graduating from the Iowa State College at Ames, is conducting a farm of one hundred and twenty acres near Monona according to the most modern and progressive agricultural methods; W. Hagen, twenty-eight years of age, is secretary and treasurer of the Monona Light & Power Co.; Leslie H., aged twenty-six, is president of the above company, and H. Walter, aged twenty-three, is a graduate of Carlton College and is now fitting himself for the profession of dentistry at the State University of Minnesota. Mrs. Wellman is the daughter of Gilbert and Agnetta Hagen, natives of Norway, who came to America in the early '50s and settled in Allamakee county, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

**Herman Werger** has gained for himself distinctive prosperity and influence as a representative of agricultural and livestock industry in his native county and the concrete evidences of his ability and progressiveness are shown in his ownership of one of the valuable landed estates of Farmersburg township, where he has made the best of improvements upon his fine farm, comprising a fraction less than one hundred and forty acres and eligibly situated in section 23. In addition to this homestead farm he owns also a tract of thirty acres of timber land in Clayton township, and he is a stockholder and director of the Farmersburg Savings Bank. His advancement has been won through his own energy and well ordered activities and he is now one of the substantial farmers and popular and influential citizens of his native county. Herman Werger was born in Farmersburg township, this county, on the 12th of October, 1863, and is a son of William and Doris (Best) Werger, who were born and reared in Germany and who came to America in 1849. In that year William Werger became a pioneer of Clayton county, and after being employed for some time at farm work he purchased a farm of his own, this old homestead having continued the place of residence of him and his wife until the close of their lives and both having been earnest communicants of the Lutheran church. Of their eight children four are now living. Herman Werger was reared under the conditions that obtained in the pioneer period of Clayton county history, gained his youthful education in the public schools of the day, and thereafter continued to remain at the parental home and to assist his father in the work and management of the farm until he had attained to the age of thirty-four years. This represented an important stage in his career, for it was at this time that he married the young woman who was to prove his devoted and cherished companion and helpmeet and the gracious mother of

his children. After his marriage he purchased his present homestead farm, upon which he has since made many excellent improvements of a permanent order, including the erection of good buildings, and thrift and progressiveness has marked his activities as one of the successful exponents of agricultural and livestock industry in Clayton county, where he and his wife have a circle of friends that is limited only by that of their acquaintances. Mr. Werger is a Republican in politics and is now serving as a school director of his district. His postoffice address is McGregor, and in that village he and his wife are active communicants of the Lutheran church. In the year 1897 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Werger to Miss Julia Marting, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of Garrett and Mary (Mayhuff) Marting, who were honored pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of their death and both of whom were natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Werger have two sons: Ernest C. and Carl H.

**Fred Werges** is consistently to be given special recognition as one of the prominent and influential representatives of agricultural and livestock industry in his native county, where he is the owner of one of the fine farms of Farmersburg township, with high standing as a progressive man of affairs and as an upright and loyal citizen well worthy of the esteem that is uniformly accorded to him. Mr. Werges was born in Clayton township, this county, on the 10th of February, 1858, and, as this date implies, he is a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of Clayton county. He is one of the eight surviving children of Casper A. and Lutzia W. (Bruns) Werges, both natives of Germany, whence they came to America in the 40's, their marriage having been solemnized in Clayton county. Casper Werges was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, and after coming to the United States he maintained his home at Cincinnati, Ohio, until 1845, when he came to Iowa and purchased a tract of land in Clayton county. He thus became one of the very early settlers of Clayton township, where he reclaimed as from the wilderness a productive farm and where he long continued his successful activities as an agriculturist and stock-raiser. He was one of the substantial and honored pioneer citizens of the county at the time of his death, which occurred in 1903, and his venerable widow still resides on the old homestead, she having celebrated, in 1916, her seventy-sixth birthday anniversary. Her husband was eighty-six years of age when he passed forward to the life eternal, and his character was the positive expression of a strong and steadfast nature. Fred Werges grew to maturity under the conditions and influences of the pioneer farm and gained his early education in the district schools of Clayton township. He remained at the parental home until he had attained to the age of twenty-four years, when he married Miss Margaret Powell, who was born and reared on the fine homestead farm which is now their place of abode, and who is a daughter of James W. and Katherine (Dripps) Powell, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. Powell and his devoted wife were likewise numbered among the early settlers of Clayton county, and both passed the clos-

ing years of their long and useful lives on the homestead place which Mr. Powell reclaimed and which is now owned by the subject of this review. After his marriage Mr. Werges rented the farm of his father-in-law, and finally he purchased the property, which comprises two hundred acres of valuable land in section 25, Farmersburg township, and upon which he had made many excellent improvements, including the erection of farm buildings of the most substantial and well equipped order. Though Mr. Werges has now virtually retired from the heavier labors and exacting responsibilities that long marked his course as a progressive farmer, he still gives a careful supervision to the affairs of his fine landed estate, on which he has made a specialty of raising good grades of cattle and swine, in connection with diversified agriculture. He has served continuously since 1899 as government crop reporter for Clayton county, and has gained authoritative influence in connection with agricultural and live-stock industries in his native county. His political support is given to the Democratic party and he and his wife are active members of the Congregational church at McGregor. Mr. and Mrs. Werges have three children: Sidney J., who was graduated in the Decorah Institute and also the Iowa State Agricultural College, now has the active management of the old homestead farm of his parents; Leroy P., a graduate of the same institutions as was his elder brother, is now employed in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Ruth May, who was graduated in the high school at Elkader, is now a popular teacher in the schools of her home county.

**Henry L. Werges** has never deserted the ranks of the bachelors but that he has in no sense lacked the benignant and grateful influences of ideal home life may well be understood when it is stated that he remains with his venerable mother on the fine old homestead farm which has been his place of abode from the time of his birth and he is a popular representative of one of the well known and highly honored pioneer families of Clayton county, where his father established residence more than seventy years ago. Henry L. Werges was born on the farm upon which he now resides and to the management of which he gives his close and effective attention, and the date of his nativity was December 14, 1861. He is a son of Casper and Lutzia W. (Bruns) Werges, both of whom were born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany. The father was reared and educated in his native land, whence he emigrated to the United States in 1842. He remained in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, as an employe in an iron foundry, until 1845, when he came to Iowa and became one of the very early settlers of Clayton county. Here he bought a tract of land and instituted the development of a farm. He was a man of strong mentality, splendid business judgment and indomitable energy, and thus success came to him as a natural prerogative. He made consecutive advancement toward the goal of large and worthy success and eventually accumulated in the homestead farm tract of two hundred acres, this being situated in section 30, Clayton township and being the place of residence of his venerable widow and a number of their



children. In addition to this splendid home place the family estate includes also a farm of ninety-three acres in the same township; two hundred and sixty-five acres on the Mississippi river island near the village of Clayton; one hundred and sixty acres in Lyon county and an equal amount in Hancock county. The original home which the honored father provided for the family was a pioneer log house, and in 1863 he erected the substantial and commodious brick residence which is now the home of his widow and three of their children. The marriage of Casper A. Werges to Miss Lutzia Bruns was solemnized in Clayton county in the year 1855, and here their devoted companionship continued unbroken for nearly half a century, the gracious ties having been severed by the death of the venerable husband and father, who was summoned to the life eternal in 1903, at the age of eighty-six years. Mrs. Werges celebrated in 1916 her eighty-first birthday anniversary and is one of the revered pioneer women of Clayton county. Of the nine children all are living except the youngest, John, who died at the age of five years. Maggie is a maiden lady and remains at the old home; Frederick is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; Henry L., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Anna M. and Christina have not married and both remain with the widowed mother on the old homestead; Mary is the wife of William Schulte, of this county; William H. is a bachelor and is associated with his brother Henry L. in the operation of the old homestead; Edward is another of the prosperous farmers of Clayton township and is the youngest of the children. Henry L. Werges gained his early education in the public schools of his native county and he has never severed his allegiance to the basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing, the while his operations have continuously been carried forward on the old homestead that was the place of his birth. He has secure place as one of the substantial exponents of agricultural and live-stock enterprise in Clayton county, is loyal and liberal in his civic relations, is a Democrat in politics, and has served as road superintendent of Clayton township. The old home receives its mail service on rural route No. 3 from the village of McGregor.

**Edwin W. White** has shown during the course of a long and signally successful career that strong instinct for efficiency that not only conserves individual advancement but also make for usefulness in connection with the affairs of citizenship. Since 1890 Mr. White has been established successfully in the conducting of a general merchandise business at Volga, as junior member of the firm of Adams & White, and it is gratifying to state that on other pages of this work specific mention is made also of the senior member of the firm of Charles S. Adams. Mr. White has the distinction of claiming the old Green Mountain state as the place of his nativity and is descended from a long line of sterling New England ancestors. He was born in South Hero, Vermont, on the 18th of February, 1859, and thus was but four years of age when, in 1863, his parents came to Iowa and established their home in Clayton county. He is a son of Sidney and Melissa (Hoyt) White, the

former a native of Vermont and the latter of Connecticut, and this sterling New England couple established their home at Volga, Clayton county, Iowa, in the year 1863. Here the father became a pioneer business man and influential citizen of the community, and here he continued to reside until his death, which occurred when he was about fifty-eight years of age. His widow still resides at Volga and is one of the venerable and loved pioneer women of the county. Of the five children three survive the honored father. Edwin W. White was reared under the conditions and influences of the pioneer period of Clayton county history, and profited duly by the opportunities for scholastic advancement that were afforded in the public schools. He remained at the parental home until his marriage, which occurred in 1890, and then became associated with Charles S. Adams in forming the firm of Adams & White, which has since carried on successfully and progressively a general merchandise business at Volga, with a large and well appointed establishment that caters most effectively to a discriminating and appreciative patronage. In addition to his interest in this substantial business enterprise Mr. White is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres in Sperry township, this county. He is one of the most vigorous, enterprising and public-spirited business men of Volga and has been a potent factor in the upbuilding of the business of the Farmers' State Bank of this village, of which he was one of the organizers and of which he is serving as president. The cause of the Republican party enlists the staunch support of Mr. White and he has not only served as a loyal and valued member of the village council of Volga but also as township treasurer. He liberally supports the various departments of religious and civic activity represented by the local Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. White is a devoted and zealous member. In the year 1890 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. White to Miss Clara Crane, who was born and reared in this county, and they have five children: Ruth, Sidney, Shubal, Doris and Howard.

**Wendell E. White** passed his entire life in Clayton county, where, in his youth, he made good use of the advantages afforded in the public schools, and where he was reared to manhood on the farm of his father. After his marriage, which occurred in the year 1891, he continued to devote his attention to agricultural pursuits for six years, at the expiration of which he established his home in the village of Volga and engaged in the general merchandise business. He developed a substantial and prosperous enterprise and continued his active control of the same until his death, which occurred on the 1st of April, 1909, at which time he was about sixty-five years of age. He was a man of sterling character, and manifested much enterprise and good judgment in all of his business operations, the while he maintained the inviolate confidence and good will of the people of his native county and was a loyal and progressive citizen. Since his demise his widow has successfully continued the mercantile business at Volga, where she owns the building in which the well-equipped store is quartered

and also the attractive residence property which was provided by her husband as the family home. She has proved a careful and discriminating business woman and her success has been reinforced by her distinctive personal popularity, for in Clayton county it may well be said that her circle of friends is limited only by that of her acquaintances. She is a stockholder in the Volga Savings Bank, takes lively interest in all things pertaining to the community welfare and is a popular figure in the representative social activities of her home village, where also she is a zealous member of the Presbyterian church. In the year 1891 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. White to Miss D. Blanche Tenny, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Alpheus and Polly A. (Chapman) Tenny. Her parents were born and reared in Ohio, and their marriage was solemnized in Volga, and in the '50s they came to Iowa and numbered themselves among the pioneers of Clayton county. Here the father devoted the remainder of his active life to farming, and here he passed to eternal rest in the year 1907, a man who had lived a righteous and upright life and who had commanded the unqualified respect and esteem of his fellow men. His venerable widow now maintains her home at Volga and is one of the revered pioneer women of Clayton county. She became the mother of three children, all of whom survive the honored husband and father. Mr. and Mrs. White became the parents of two children, of whom the elder is Alo Tenny, who is now the wife of Arthur V. O'Brien, a prosperous farmer of Clayton county, their one child being a son, Joseph Eugene. Cecile, the younger of the two daughters, is the wife of Frank L. O'Brien, who likewise is a representative agriculturist of this county. Mrs. White gained her early education in the public schools of Clayton county and supplemented this by a course in a normal school, in which she was graduated. For a period of six years prior to her marriage she was found numbered among the successful and popular teachers in the schools of her native county, and she still takes a lively interest in educational affairs and in keeping in touch with the best thought and sentiment of the day, as an appreciative student and reader of good literature.

**Abbot Whitman.**—One of the pioneers of Clayton county, Iowa, was George Abbot Whitman, son of Captain Samuel Whitman, Jr., and Elizabeth Howard Whitman. He was born in West Hartford, Connecticut, February 15, 1817, where he received his preliminary education, finishing his studies at South Hadley Academy. In 1838, at the age of twenty-one, he started on his long journey west, which took several weeks. At length he reached Iowa territory and finally settled in Clayton county. The following is an extract taken from a letter written by him to his parents July 7, 1838: "I have settled on the prairie between the Mississippi and Turkey rivers. I am in latitude  $42\frac{1}{2}$  a considerable distance north of where I intended when I left home. One reason why I came this far north is that on inquiring of many who had lived down in the southern part of Indiana and Illinois that it was unhealthy on all those flat extensive prairies, besides all the good land



was taken up; and the same reasons which made it unhealthy for man would render it difficult keeping sheep, one object I had in view when I left home; and to conclude my reasons for stopping here, it is in the vicinity of the lead mines where a great many persons are engaged in mining, which makes a good market for everything the farmer can raise so long as there is a market on the Mississippi river. I suppose it is as good a farming country as it is farther south and the lead mines are said to be richer than the gold mines of Mexico; that is, there is more profit in working them. The claim I have to the land I am improving is like all the other claims in the territory. Perhaps thirty or forty thousand in number. There is not a man in Iowa territory who has a deed of his lands. There is a sort of combination among the settlers to support one another at the day of sale and keep the speculators out. So sure are they of the lands they claim that they make as much improvement as though they now had government deeds for them. So great is the number whose interest it is to keep the speculator out, he dare not come; neither would it be safe for him to bid on settlers improvements; for it is the avowed intention of many of them to defend their claims at the hazard of their lives. It was tried at Chicago and the squatters came off victorious. I write this not that I approve of the measure, but seeing that the measure is adopted to receive its benefits. Should the land come into market before I have time to make money to enter it I shall look at home for a supply for this purpose. I bought me part of a prairie team and am breaking prairie with another man and intend putting in spring wheat and oats in the spring and fencing this winter. I am at present boarding in the family of an eastern doctor, but think I shall soon follow the custom of the country, which is keeping bachelor hall. This is, to all appearances, as fine a sheep country as ever saw the light of the sun. When the country becomes a little older and the wild animals thinned off I think that I shall enter into wool growing, as I think there is a considerable extent of country that will be fine for this business. All the grasses that will grow in the east will flourish here in abundance. It produces white clover in abundance. The natural grass is not such as I supposed, tall as a man's head. It is not more than knee high on the dry prairie. The tall grass is on the low wet land or close in the edge of the timber. I could as easily have summered ten thousand sheep as father can five hundred. The soil is a rich black loam, with good wood and fine springs of water, which two things are greatly needed in a great many parts of the country farther south. Iowa extends west of the Mississippi about one hundred miles and from the Missouri north about four hundred miles. It has lately been set off from the Wisconsin territory." Mr. Whitman lived in Clayton county many years, opening up and improving farms. He lived on a farm in section 25 of Farmersburg township for some twelve years, where he kept bachelor hall. Mr. Whitman was intimately acquainted with many of the early settlers of the county. Judge Eli Williams, Mr. Frank Larrabee, Mr. William Larrabee, Mr. Onley and Mr. Brown, being associated with him in business

relations. He, together with these gentlemen, built and operated the flouring mill at Clayton City, one of the first, if not the first, flouring mill in the county. On November 1, 1855, Mr. Whitman was married to Elizabeth Z. Clark of West Port, New York, a sister of Mrs. Mark B. Sherman of National, Iowa. He had been selling his Iowa properties and investing in Minnesota, and here he took his bride to live in Mt. Vernon township. Here he had extensive land interests and bought and shipped wheat to the Clayton mill. In 1865 Mr. Whitman moved his family to Winona, Minnesota. Here he looked after his various financial and business interests, devoting much of his time to his extensive real estate holdings in Mt. Vernon and Rollingstone townships. Two sons and three daughters came to bless this happy union, one daughter died in infancy. H. L. Whitman, Elizabeth and Julia Whitman still retain the old house in Winona. H. L. Whitman, the oldest son, has managed successfully his father's farms for the past thirty years. George A. Whitman, Jr., is a prominent banker on the Mesaba Iron Range, making his home at Eveleth, Minnesota. Mr. Whitman passed away December 28, 1884. He was a man of sterling qualities, kind and generous in the extreme to all the needy, and one whose example might well be followed by a younger generation. His wife, Elizabeth Z. (Clark) Whitman, survived him until June 9, 1896, when she too left the happy home.

**Benjamin J. Wickersheim** is the owner of one of the well improved and well managed farms of his native county and is clearly entitled to recognition in this history as one of the representative agriculturists and enterprising citizens of Giard township, where the year 1916 finds him also giving efficient service in the office of constable. He lends his co-operation in the furtherance of those movements that tend to advance the best interests of the community and his sterling traits of character have given him the fullest measure of popular esteem and approbation. He was born in Giard township on the 11th of November, 1878, and is a son of George and Catherine (Rosencranz) Wickersheim, both natives of Germany. George Wickersheim became one of the early settlers of Giard township, where he devoted the remainder of his active life to successful farm enterprise and where he developed and improved one of the excellent farms of Clayton county. He was sixty-nine years of age at the time of his death and his venerable widow now resides with their son, Benjamin J., of this review. Mr. Wickersheim was a Republican in his political adherency and was a consistent member of the German Methodist Episcopal church, as is also his widow. Their first child, Edwin, died young; William B. is one of the prosperous farmers of Giard township; Lena remains at the old homestead; Anna is the wife of George Kother, of Giard township; Henry J. resides in the village of Monona; Emma is the wife of Henry Kamp, of Mendon township; Benjamin J., of this review, has the supervision of the old homestead farm, and Catherine likewise remains at the home with her widowed mother. Benjamin J. Wickersheim showed in his boyhood the sturdy mental and physical powers that have matured effectively with the passing

years, and his early educational advantages were those afforded in the schools of his native township, the while his assistance in the work of the home farm began when he was still a boy. He has never severed his allegiance to the fundamental industries of agriculture and stock-growing and has proved one of their successful representatives in Clayton county, where he has shown marked discrimination and progressiveness in his independent operations as a farmer on the fine old homestead, which comprises one hundred and twenty acres and to the improvements of which he has made numerous additions. His political support is given to the Republican party and, as previously stated, he is serving at the present time as constable of Giard township. He and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church at McGregor, and he is serving as treasurer of its Sunday school. November 26, 1914, recorded the marriage of Mr. Wickersheim to Miss Grace Schweiger, who likewise was born and reared in Giard township and who is a daughter of John and Gertrude Schweiger, sterling citizens of that township. Mr. and Mrs. Wickersheim have one child, a winsome little daughter, Gertrude C., who lends brightness and cheer to the family home.

**John F. Widman** is one of the very appreciable and greatly valued contingent of Clayton county citizens who claim Germany as their native land, but he was an infant of about two years at the time of the family emigration to the United States and was reared and educated in Iowa. He has maintained his residence in McGregor, Clayton county for nearly two score years and is one of the substantial business men and popular and progressive citizens of this thriving municipality. Mr. Widman was born in Germany on the 20th of May, 1851, and is a son of Frederick and Sophia Widman, the younger of whose children is Sophia, the wife of Charles Schrader, of St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1853 Fredrick Widman emigrated with his family to America and for a short time resided at La Salle, Illinois, where his wife died. From that place he came to Iowa and became one of the early settlers at Dubuque, where he continued to maintain his home until his death, at a venerable age. His second wife, whose maiden name was Veronica Rouch, still survives him and now resides in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota. Of their children the eldest is William, of St. Paul; Anna is the wife of Walter Cranford, of Minneapolis, that state; Josephine is the wife of Frederick Gardiner, of St. Paul, and Julia, the youngest daughter, is the wife of Charles Peterson, of that city. John F. Widman gained his early education principally in the public schools of the city of Dubuque, and there he served an effective apprenticeship at the bookbinder's trade, as an exponent of which he remained fifteen years in the employ of one firm in that city. In 1878, shortly after his marriage, he came to Clayton county and established his home at McGregor, where he made investment in a printing, publishing and bookbinding plant and where for twenty-two years he published a weekly paper, the McGregor News. He still continues his printing and bookbinding business, which is one of substantial order, and he is valued as one of the



alert, progressive and representative business men of the fine little city that has long been his home and the stage of his earnest and well ordered endeavors. Mr. Widman is found arrayed as a loyal advocate and supporter of the cause of the Republican party, but he has not been a seeker of political preferment, although he has served in minor municipal offices at McGregor. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Brotherhood of America, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Congregational church. In the year 1874 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Widman to Miss Louisa Moery, who was born and reared at Dubuque, and they have four children: Alfred, Charles, Laura and Fred. All of the sons are associated with their father's business and the only daughter is employed as a skilled bookkeeper in her native city.

**Conrad H. Wiegand** has long been known as a skilled machinist and has achieved distinctive success in connection with the work of his trade, his present well equipped machine shop, at Monona, being established in a substantial brick building which he erected for the purpose in 1902, the building being thirty-six by one hundred and twenty feet in dimensions. This shop is supplied with the most improved machinery and other accessories for the facile execution of all kinds of work of the order to which it is applied, and Mr. Wiegand is known and valued as one of the progressive and representative business men of Clayton county, which has been his home since his early childhood. Mr. Wiegand was born in Germany, on the 20th of July, 1855, a son of Henry and Catherine Wiegand, and he was but four years of age when his parents numbered themselves among the pioneers of Clayton county, where they passed the residue of their lives, secure in the high esteem of all who knew them. In this county Conrad H. Wiegand was reared to manhood, and here he acquired his early education. As a youth of about fourteen years he entered upon a practical apprenticeship to the machinist's trade, in a well ordered machine shop at McGregor, his apprenticeship continuing from 1869 to 1871, inclusive. For a time he was employed as a machinist with the Ringling Brothers' circus, the brothers of the famous circus having been reared in Clayton county and having been residents of McGregor at the time when they initiated, in a very modest way, the circus business that has become the greatest in the world and that has given them a national reputation. For a number of years Mr. Wiegand virtually withdrew from the work of his trade and during this interval he gave his attention to farm enterprise in Clayton county, in the meanwhile having also operated most successfully a threshing outfit. In resuming the work of his trade he established himself in business at Monona, in which thriving little city he has since continued his activities in the conducting of a modern machine shop. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Monona. On the 20th of May, 1889, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Wiegand to Miss Augusta Heilman, who was born and

reared in this county, and the only child of this union died in infancy.

**Wiegand Brothers**—Henry J. Wiegand and Louis Wiegand are well known and popular representatives of one of the honored pioneer families of Clayton county and own and reside upon the fine old homestead farm, in Mendon township, which figures as the place of their nativity. Their landed estate comprises two hundred and forty acres of the productive and valuable land of their native township, and they stand forth as energetic and progressive agriculturists and representative citizens of this section of Clayton county, with a record of steadfast purpose and worthy achievement and with a sterling integrity that gives them the fullest measure of popular esteem, so that to them can be no application of the scriptural aphorism that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country." Their well improved farmstead is devoted to careful and admirably directed enterprise along the lines of diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of livestock, and in the latter department of operation Wiegand Brothers have been especially successful and influential. As citizens of broad and intelligent views and unequivocal loyalty, they take lively interest in community affairs, and though they have shown naught of ambition for public office they are found arraigned as staunch supporters of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor. Henry and Louis Wiegand are the sons of Henry and Catherine (Hellwig) Wiegand, both of whom were born and reared near the historic old city of Hamburg, Germany, and within a comparatively short time after their marriage they emigrated to the United States, about the year 1857. They came to Clayton county and established their home in the village of McGregor, which was then known as McGregor's Landing, and there Mr. Wiegand was employed in a machine shop until he purchased a pioneer farm in Mendon township, where he continued his association with agricultural enterprise until he had developed one of the valuable farms of the county, this old homestead having continued as the place of residence of both him and his wife until they were summoned from the stage of their mortal endeavors, secure in the high regard of all who knew them, both having been zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the political faith of Mr. Weigand having been that of the Republican party. Of the children the eldest two, John and Elizabeth, still reside in Mendon township; Conrad operates a machine shop at Monona; Henry J. and Louis, who are the youngest of the children and own the old homestead, as previously stated in this context. After making good use of the advantages afforded in the pioneer schools of Clayton county, Henry J. and Louis Wiegand, of this review, continued for a number of years to be associated with their father in the work and management of the home farm, but prior to becoming the owners of the same Henry J. Wiegand had for several years successfully followed the painters' trade, in which his work was principally that of carriage painter.

**Oscar Wiesner** came to Clayton county soon after he had immigrated to America from his German fatherland and as a man of splendid energy and progressiveness he has achieved large and worthy success. He for a time was the owner of a flour mill at Volga, and in connection with the same he installed the modern electric plant which furnishes the effective lighting facilities to this thriving little city. He is one of the substantial and honored citizens of the county that has represented his home for a quarter of a century and in which he has found and improved the opportunities that have enabled him to gain a position of prominence and influence as a business man and as a loyal and public-spirited citizen. Mr. Wiesner was born in Brandenburg Germany, on the 27th of September, 1850, and is a son of Herman and Marie (Haberman) Wiesner, both of whom passed their entire lives in their native land and both of whom were lifelong communicants of the German Lutheran church. Of their children the firstborn was Max, who is deceased; the subject of this sketch was the next in order of birth; and Richard, Hedwig and Otto still remain at the old home in Germany. In the schools of his native place Oscar Wiesner gained his early educational training, and there he continued his association with the milling business until 1889, when he came to the United States and forthwith made his way to the northwest. He remained for a brief period in the city of St. Paul and then came to Clayton county and established his residence at Mederville. There he became the owner of a flour mill, the successful operation of which he continued until the building was destroyed by fire, in July, 1913, the ground on which the plant stood being still owned by him, as is also the water power that was utilized in the operation of the mill. In September, 1913, Mr. Wiesner removed to Volga, where he expanded the scope of his business operations by purchasing the grist mill and in the operation of which he built up a substantial and profitable enterprise and sold it August 18, 1916 to Christ Miller & Son's. His progressiveness was especially evidenced in his installing in connection with the mill the excellent electric-lighting plant, which gives the best service in supplying light for the streets, business houses and private residences of the village. Mr. Wiesner has had no ambition for political activity or preferment but is found arrayed as a loyal supporter of the cause of the Republican party and is emphatically liberal and public-spirited as a citizen. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the family are Presbyterian. On Christmas day of the year 1878 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Wiesner to Miss Elizabeth Evitt, and their four children are: Amy, the eldest, is now the wife of Harry Hold, of Volga; Otto is a resident of the state of Montana; and Max and Ernest remain at the parental home.

**William B. Wiethorn** has gained secure vantage place as one of the representative young business men of his native county and is showing marked initiative and executive ability in connection with the conducting of the extensive mercantile enterprise of the firm of Kaiser & Wiethorn, of which he is the junior member



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J. A. WILDER AND WIFE

and which is incorporated under the laws of the State, with a capital stock of fifteen thousand dollars. The establishment of this progressive firm in the thriving little city of Monona is splendidly equipped in all departments, is really metropolitan in its appointments, and the honorable and straightforward policies combine with admirable service to control for the firm a large and representative trade. In the large store are departments devoted to dry goods, shoes, men's furnishing goods, and groceries, and the establishment represents one of the important and well ordered general merchandise enterprises in Clayton county, with a reputation that constitutes one of the best commercial assets. William B. Wiethorn was born on his father's farm in Giard township, this county, and the date of his nativity was July 4, 1891. He is a son of Henry J. and Elizabeth (Barnhardt) Wiethorn, the former of whom was born near Friendship, Adams county, Wisconsin, and the latter in Clayton county, Iowa, where her parents were pioneer settlers. Henry J. Wiethorn and his wife now reside in Monona, where he is living virtually retired, after having achieved substantial success through his activities as a carpenter and as a farmer. He is a staunch Republican in politics and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their eldest child, Elmer, is now a resident of Allamakee county; Benjamin and George maintain their home at Monona; Gilbert is an effective representative of agricultural industry in Giard township; William B., of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; and Harry remains at the parental home. William B. Wiethorn gained his preliminary education in the district schools of his native township and supplemented this by attending the public schools of Monona. After leaving school he was for five years retained as a clerk in the mercantile establishment of F. H. Howard, and he then, in 1913, initiated his independent business career under most favorable auspices. He became associated with Ernest G. Kaiser in the organization of the firm of Kaiser & Wiethorn, and they have since conducted a most prosperous mercantile business, with the best of modern facilities and with marked discrimination and progressiveness. To the senior member of this representative firm individual attention is directed on other pages of this work. Mr. Wiethorn is loyal and public-spirited as a citizen and takes lively interest in all that concerns the wellbeing of his native county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he is now serving most effectively as a member of the village council of Monona. He and his wife are popular figures in the representative social activities of the community. On the 14th of February, 1912, Mr. Wiethorn was united in marriage to Miss Adele Wirkler, daughter of Edward and Mary (Able) Wirkler, of Monona, and the one child of this union is Janice, who was born November 23, 1912.

**John Anson Wilder** has been a resident of Clayton county for more than half a century and has here made such good use of the opportunities that have come to him in connection with the fundamental industry of agriculture that he has become one of



the extensive landholders and prominent representatives of the important agricultural and livestock enterprise in the county. He was without financial resources of more than nominal order when he came as a young man to this county, and his advancement has been won by earnest and well directed effort along normal lines of enterprise, the while he has so ordered his course as to merit and receive the high esteem of those with whom he has come in contact in the varied relations of life. Now venerable in years, he is living virtually retired on his fine homestead farm in Cass township, his only son having the active management of the farm. Mr. Wilder was born in Lake county, Ohio, on the 10th of July, 1841, and in both the paternal and maternal lines is a scion of staunch old New England stock, the respective families having been founded in America in the colonial days. He is now the only survivor of a family of three sons born to Almon and Lydia (Wyman) Wilder, who were born and reared in the state of Vermont, where their marriage was solemnized and whence they removed to Ohio in an early day. Later they became pioneer settlers in Wisconsin, where the death of the father occurred, and the mother passed the closing years of her life in the home of her son John A., of this review, where she died at a venerable age. Mr. Wilder gained his early educational discipline in the common schools of the old Buckeye state and as a lad of twelve years he became virtually dependent upon his own resources. He continued his residence in Ohio until he was about twenty-three years of age and there gave his attention to farm work until 1864, when he came to Iowa and made Clayton county, his destination.

He arrived at Strawberry Point on the 29th of March of that year, and for the ensuing three years he was employed on the farm of Peter Blake, a sterling pioneer of the county. He then purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Section 8, Cass township, where he lived several years and effected well ordered development and improvement. He then purchased and removed to another farm, in Section 16, of the same township, and this place comprised eighty acres. From this modest nucleus he has by his industry and good judgement developed his present finely improved and valuable landed estate of three hundred and thirty acres in Clayton county, besides which he is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land in Polk county, Minnesota. Mr. Wilder is a stalwart advocate and supporter of the cause of the Republican party but has held no public office save that of member of the school board, a position in which he served for a long term of years. At Strawberry Point he affiliated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons. On December 10th, 1865 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Wilder to Miss Sarah Cook, who was born in Illinois and whose parents, John and Martha Cook, were natives of England. Mrs. Wilder was one of a family of eight children, all of whom lived till the youngest was sixty years of age and six of whom are living at the time of this writing. Mr. and Mrs. Wilder have but one child, Frank A., who remains at the parental home, and who is one of the vigorous

and popular exponents of agricultural enterprise in his native county. He was graduated in the high school at Strawberry Point, and later was graduated in turn in Fayette College, at Fayette, this state, and in the business university at Dixon, Illinois. For several years thereafter he figured as a popular and successful teacher in the public schools, and he now finds ample demand upon his time and attention in the active supervision of the large landed estate that has been accumulated by his honored father.

Mrs. Wilder has been a member of Strawberry Point M. E. Church for 53 years. Mr. and Mrs. Wilder celebrated their Golden wedding in 1915.

**Fred C. Wilke** is another of the native sons of Clayton county who has achieved definite success in connection with agricultural operations, and he may well consider himself fortunate in his choice and stage of vocation, for he is the owner of one of the well improved and valuable farms of the county, is established in peace and plenty and finds that in all respects his "lines are cast in pleasant places," for the further reinforcement is given him of having the confidence and good will of the people of the county which has represented his home from the time of his birth and to which he pays the full tribute of loyalty and appreciation. Mr. Wilke was born in the village of Read, a place familiarly known as Clayton Center for many years, and the date of his nativity was October 7, 1879. He is a son of Fred W. and Dorothy (Lembke) Wilke, who were born and reared in Germany and who established their home in Clayton county soon after their immigration to America, about the year 1860. In his native land the father had learned the tailor trade and after taking up his residence at Clayton Center he there worked diligently at his trade for a period of fifteen years. He then engaged in the general merchandise business at that place and with this line of enterprise he was identified until advanced years and well earned independence rendered consistent his retirement from active business. He was about 65 years of age at the time of his death and his widow still maintains her home at Clayton Center, a lifelong and zealous communicant of the Lutheran church, as was also her husband. Of the twelve children seven still survive the honored father. Fred C. Wilke is indebted to the public schools of Clayton Center for the educational training which he received in his youth and he remained at the parental home until he had attained to the age of twenty-two years, when he took unto himself a wife and signalized this assumption of connubial dignities and responsibilities by initiating an independent career as a farmer. For twelve years he conducted his operations on a rented farm, and in 1914 he purchased his present farm, which comprises one hundred and seventy-six acres and is situated in Section 6, Read township. The place has excellent buildings and other permanent improvements, is maintained under a high state of well ordered cultivation and is devoted to diversified agriculture and the raising of good grades of live stock. Mr. Wilke is aligned as a supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and his influence in community affairs, as well as his personal

popularity, is indicated by the fact that in 1916 he is the vigorous and progressive incumbent of the office of township trustee. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Lutheran church at Clayton Center; St. Olaf, Iowa, R. R. 2, is their postoffice address. He is a stockholder in the Farmer's Creamery Company at St. Olaf, and is a member of the St. Olaf Live Stock Company. In the year 1900 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Wilke to Miss Emilie Engelhardt, who has been a resident of Clayton county from the time of her birth and who is one of the ten surviving children of Rudolph and Maria Engelhardt, her parents having been born and reared in Germany and having established their home in Clayton county about 1865, soon after their immigration to the United States. Here the father followed agricultural pursuits until his death and here his widow still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Wilke have four children: Edna M., Amanda, Lorenz F. and Helen.

**Wilke, Gus H.**, a prominent insurance man of Elkader, Iowa, was born in that city February 28th, 1874, and is the son of H. W. and Anna (Gossman) Wilke, the former a native of Germany, and the latter born in Clayton county. The father was a solid and successful merchant of Elkader, a dealer in general merchandise for many years, but has now retired from active business. To him and his wife were born six children, of whom Gus is the eldest, followed in the order of their birth by Ella, who is living at home with her parents; Ina and Katie, deceased; Ida, also at home; and Jessie who is the wife of H. J. Conrad, who is a teacher of manual training in the high school of Elkader.

Our subject received his education in the elementary and high schools of his home town, and after the completion of his studies, he went into his father's general merchandizing business, remaining with him for exactly twenty years to the day, when, in 1910, he accepted the position of assistant cashier of the Elkader State Bank. After five years of exemplary service, he resigned this responsible post to engage in the insurance business, entering the employ of the New York Life Insurance Company, in which he is meeting with eminent success. He espoused Anna Paul, a native of Clayton county, and the daughter of E. M. and Elizabeth (Ehrlich) Paul, and to them have been born three children: Phyllis N., Paul, and Dorothy. Mr. Wilke is an adherent to the tenets of the Republican party, always giving it his loyal support, and is a member of the Masonic Order, and of the Congregational church. He takes a keen interest in the amusement features of his community, and is manager of the Opera house, and secretary of the Elkader Fair Association.

**Dominic F. Willmes** is of the second generation honorably linked with the history of Clayton county, and he is actively associated with the agricultural industry in his native county, as one of its progressive and thrifty farmers. He was formerly a successful and popular representative of the pedagogic profession in the county, and is known as a steadfast, upright and vigorous citizen who takes a loyal interest in community affairs, and who is of broad mental ken and well fortified convictions. On the old home-



stead farm in Section 3, Boardman township, this county, Mr. Willmes was born on the 7th day of March, 1877, a son of John and Mary (Miller) Willmes, both natives of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, Germany. As a boy John Willmes accompanied four of his elder brothers on their immigration to America, and they became pioneer settlers in Clayton county, Iowa, where they came into possession of more than five hundred acres of land, in Boardman township. John Willmes became the owner of the seventy acres which constitutes the homestead farm on which his widow and two sons now reside, in Section 3, Boardman township. He later added eighty acres to his farm and developed one of the fine landed estates of the county, with incidental precedence as one of the representative exponents of agricultural industry in this favored section of the Hawkeye State. He continued his residence on the farm until his death, which occurred October 29th, 1884, and a loyal citizen and man of affairs he commanded unqualified popular esteem. He was always ready to lend his aid in the furtherance of measures and enterprises projected for the general good of the community, was a Democrat in his political proclivities and was a zealous communicant of the Catholic church, as is also his widow, who still remains on the old homestead, as previously stated. He served as secretary and treasurer of the school board of his district but had naught of ambition for political preferment. Of the five children the eldest is Peter, who is now a successful farmer in Shelby county, this state; Nicholas is deceased, his death having occurred when he was about 8 years of age; Catherine remains at home with her widowed mother, as do also the younger sons, Dominic F., and Simon, who have charge of the active work and management of the finely improved farm, which comprises in the aggregate one hundred and eighty-three acres. Reared under the invigorating discipline of the farm, Dominic F. Willmes early began to contribute his quota to its work, and thus he waxed strong in physical powers the while he was profiting duly also by the advantages of the public schools, in which he continued his studies until he had completed the curriculum of the high school at Elkader, the county seat. Thereafter he devoted five years to successful work as a teacher in the rural schools of the county, and he then amplified his education by completing a through commercial course in the Wisconsin Business College, in the city of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, in which institute he was graduated as a member of the class of 1899. Since his graduation he has been associated with his brother Simon in the management of the old home farm, and they have made the same exemplify most fully the characteristics of thrift and prosperity, the while they are well upholding the honors of the family name. Mr. Willmes is a stalwart and effective advocate of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor, and in 1908 he had the distinction of being elected county auditor, an office of which he continued the incumbent for four years and in which he gave a most efficient and popular administration. Prior to his election to his office he had served six years as assessor of Boardman

township, and these preferments indicate his unqualified popularity in the county that has ever represented his home. He is a communicant of the Catholic church, and is a sterling native son of Clayton county who is especially worthy of recognition in this history. His name is still found enrolled on the list of eligible bachelors in Clayton county.

**Lewis Witleson.** It is a matter of no slight social and material significance when a man can claim secure status as one of the successful yeomen of the great state of Iowa, and such distinction applies to Mr. Witleson, who is one of the progressive young agriculturists and stock growers of his native county and one of the popular and loyal citizens of Marion township, within whose borders he has maintained his home from the time of his birth and in which he is effectively upholding the prestige of a family name that has been one of prominence in connection with the civic and industrial activities of Clayton county since the early pioneer days. On the old homestead farm of his father, in Section 26, Marion township, Lewis Witleson was born on the 24th of May, 1887, and he is a son of Wetley and Ambjor (Lamsgaard) Witleson, the former of whom was born and reared in Clayton county, and the latter of whom was born in Norway. Wetley Witleson's parents were born and reared in Norway and upon coming to America they became pioneer settlers of Clayton county, to the development and uplifting of which they contributed to the full extent of their powers. There came to Wetley Witleson ample opportunity for the achieving of large success and definite prosperity as one of the farmers of his native county, and he accumulated and improved a fine landed estate, so that he was one of the substantial citizens and representative farmers of the county at the time of his death, which occurred April 27th, 1895. His widow remains with their son Lewis, of this review, on the old homestead farm that was devised to the latter by his grandfather, Lars Witleson, the sterling pioneer, who outlived his son Wetley and who was summoned to the life eternal in 1906. Of the children of Wetley and Ambjor Witleson the firstborn, Amelia, died young; Annie is the wife of Knute Olson, of Wagner township, this county; Emma is the wife of Emil Gulsvig, of Marion township; Lewis, of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; and William A. and Waldena remain with their brother and their widowed mother on the old homestead. Lewis Witleson profited fully by the advantages afforded in the schools of his native township and was a lad of about seven years at the time of his father's death. He was reared to maturity on the old homestead of his paternal grandfather, Lars Witleson, who died in 1906 and by the provisions of whose will Lewis Witleson came into full ownership of the present fine estate of two hundred and sixty-six acres. Here he has since continued his progressive and well ordered activities along the lines of diversified agriculture and the raising of good grades of live stock, and he is one of the representative farmers of his native county, liberal and public-spirited as a citizen and commanding the high regard of the community which has ever been his home. The

attractive home receives service on rural mail route No. 4 from the village of Elgin. Mr. Witleson is arrayed staunchly in the ranks of the Republican party and he and the other members of the household are communicants of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

**Charles E. Witt** has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a lad of about seven years and is now numbered among the representative farmers and substantial and popular citizens of Monona township, where he owns and resides upon a finely improved farm of two hundred and four acres and where he stands exponent of loyal and progressive citizenship. He was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, on the 9th day of December, 1866, and is the eldest of a family of three children; his sister Emma is the wife of Henry Bruns, of Monona, this county; and the younger sister, Clara, is the wife of Leroy Hunter, of Winneshiek county. Fredrick and Dora (Rhode) Witt, parents of the subject of this sketch, were born and reared in the Province of Mecklenburg, and the former served three years in the German Army, in consonance with governmental regulations. In 1873 Fredrick Witt immigrated with his family to the United States, as he was dependent upon his own exertions in providing for his family and felt assured that in America he would find better opportunities for the winning of success and independence. In June of the year mentioned he established the family home in the little hamlet of National, Clayton county, and after devoting three years to work in the employ of others he rented a farm and engaged in agricultural enterprise in an independent way. Later, he purchased and improved a farm in Giard township, where he continued his industrious activities until advancing years and stable prosperity justified his retirement from the arduous labors and heavy responsibilities that had long been his portion, and since that time he and his wife have maintained their home in the village of Monona, with a circle of friends that is limited only by that of their acquaintances. Mr. Witt is a Democrat in his political proclivities, and both he and his wife are devoted communicants of the German Lutheran church, in which he has served many years as deacon. Charles E. Witt gained his early education in the village school at National and the district schools of Giard township after the family home had been established on the farm. He continued to assist in the work and management of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of seventeen years, and then went to Nebraska, in which state he remained only a short time. After his return to Clayton county he was employed as a farm hand for three years and for the ensuing five years was again associated with the work and management of his father's farm. He then, in 1892, purchased one hundred and forty-four acres of his present farm, the subsequent addition being in purchase of a contiguous sixty acres, and his thrift and good judgment are clearly shown forth in the admirable appearance of all departments of the fine farm, on which he gives special attention to the raising of high-grade cattle, though he is equally successful in his operations in connection with diversified and well ordered agricultural enterprise. Mr. Witt erected his present



residence, which is a commodious house of modern design and facilities, and the other buildings which he has provided further tend to mark him as a broad-gauged and progressive representative of the great basic industries to which he is giving his attention. He is a director of the Monona State Bank and his popularity and influential position in his home community are emphatically indicated by the fact that he has served consecutively since 1910 as representative of Monona township on the county board of supervisors. He served several terms as township assessor, and is a recognized leader in popular sentiment and action in Monona township. His progressiveness is of the most distinct type and it should be especially noted that for several years past he has served as president of the Co-operative Commission Association, composed of representative farmers of Clayton county. At Monona he is affiliated with the lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons and with the camp of the Woodmen of the World. He is a stalwart in the ranks of the Democratic party and is influential in its councils in Clayton county. March 10, 1893, recorded the marriage of Mr. Witt to Miss Cora May Mathews, daughter of James and Libby (Mulholland) Mathews, of Wagner township, this county. Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Witt the first was Fred, who was born February 7th, 1894, and died on the 13th of the same month; the surviving children are Ethel, who was born July 7th, 1896, and Donald, who was born July 22nd, 1901.

**Benjamin S. Witter** is another of the native sons of the Hawkeye State who is contributing materially to the advancement of the agricultural interests of Clayton county, where his well improved farm of one hundred and nine acres is eligibly situated in Giard township, with mail service on one of the rural delivery routes emanating from McGregor. He is a progressive farmer and substantial citizen of the county and properly finds representation in this history. Mr. Witter was born in Dubuque county, this state, on the 27th of August, 1861, and is a son of Simon and Annie (Myer) Witter, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in the State of Pennsylvania. Simon Witter was reared and educated in his native land, where also he learned the trade of blacksmith. As a young man he emigrated to America and became one of the pioneer settlers of Dubuque county, Iowa, where he engaged in the work of his trade and where he finally turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, in connection with which he achieved independence and substantial prosperity. He is now one of the venerable pioneer citizens of that county; is a staunch Republican in his political adherence and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was also his devoted wife, whose death occurred a few years ago. Of their children the subject of this review is the eldest; Louis and Carrie died young; and Peter and Henry are still residents of Dubuque county. Benjamin S. Witter is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early educational training, and there, after leaving the home place, he was employed for seven years as a farm hand. In the meanwhile he carefully conserved his earnings and about

the year 1890 he came to Clayton county and purchased a farm in Mendon township. There he continued his activities as an industrious and successful agriculturist and stock grower until 1911, when he sold the property and purchased his present excellent farm, in Giard township, where he has not failed to uphold his reputation as a vigorous and resourceful exponent of the basic industries of agriculture and stock growing, through the medium of which he achieved substantial and worthy success. Though not imbued with any ambition for public office he is loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities and is unwavering in his support of the cause of the Republican party. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Giard. October 27th, 1889, recorded the marriage of Mr. Witter to Miss Annie Ollett, who likewise is a native of Iowa and who is a daughter of Herman and Annie (Thomas) Ollett, her parents having come from Germany to the United States when young folk and having first resided at Colesburg, Delaware county, after establishing their home in Iowa. From that county they came to Clayton county, where Mr. Ollett became a prosperous farmer and where he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. To Mr. and Mrs. Witter five children have been born, four of whom remain members of the home circle, as follows: Lucile, Amanda, Deborah and Herman. Emma died in early childhood.

**Charles D. Wolcott** has the distinction of having been one of the most influential factors in the developing of the largest creamery enterprise in the state of Iowa, and in connection therewith he has shown splendid loyalty and resourcefulness, the while he has become recognized as an authority in this important line of industrial and commercial activity. He is secretary of the Farmer's Co-operative Creamery at Strawberry Point and has administered its affairs with remarkable vigor, discrimination and progressiveness, as attested by the results and by its precedence not only as the largest producing creamery in Iowa but also as the first to which was granted the privilege of using the state brand. Mr. Wolcott has had charge of this representative creamery since 1912, and under his administration the same has made a splendid record. In 1915 the institution turned out more than six hundred thousand pounds of butter, nearly all of which was shipped to points outside of Clayton county. The enterprise represents one of the most important industrial undertakings of Clayton county and the secretary of the company has shown marked circumspection in directing its practical operations and handling effectively its large volume of commercial and local business. Mr. Wolcott was born in Chautauqua county, New York, on the 31st of January, 1872, and is a son of Merritt and Margaret Wolcott, both of whom passed their entire lives in the old Empire state. Charles D. Wolcott was reared and educated in his native county, where he duly availed himself of the advantages of the public schools, and he continued his associations with agricultural industry in the state of New York until 1895, when he came to Iowa and established his home on a farm in Delaware county. There he remained a

substantial and successful exponent of agricultural and live stock industry until 1912, when he came to Clayton county and assumed charge of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Strawberry Point, where he has since remained and where he has found splendid opportunity for the exercise of his progressive policies and enterprising business ideas. In addition to his association with the creamery he owns and gives personal supervision to his model little farm of twenty-four acres, in Cass township. He is a Republican in his political allegiance, and is affiliated with the local organizations of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has not been a seeker of public office but has served effectively as township assessor and as a member of the school board. He and his wife attend and support the Congregational church in their home village. In 1896 Mr. Wolcott wedded Miss Fannie Dewey, who was born in Delaware county, this state, and who is a daughter of Talcott and Mary Dewey, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott have no children.

**Frank X. Wolter** has been a resident of the village of Guttenberg from the time of his birth; here he succeeded to the control of the flourishing boot and shoe business that had been founded by his honored father in the early pioneer days, and for the long period of thirty years he continued as one of the representative merchants of his native village, where he is now living virtually retired, a loyal, public-spirited and influential citizen whose sterling character is best attested by the unqualified popular esteem accorded to him. Mr. Wolter was born at Guttenberg, Clayton county, on the 15th day of July, 1862, and is a son of John and Sophia (Boehmer) Wolter, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, whence he immigrated to the United States in 1848. He landed in the city of New Orleans, but within a comparatively short time thereafter he came to Clayton county and became a member of the fine German pioneer colony at Guttenberg. Here the father engaged in the work of his trade, that of shoemaker, and later he opened one of the early shoe stores of the village. He developed a substantial and prosperous business and gave to the same his personal supervision until he was well advanced in years, when he retired and gave over the store and business to the management of his sons. He was 76 years of age at the time of his death, which occurred in 1906, and the cherished and devoted wife of his youth passed to eternal rest in 1879, both having been earnest communicants of the Catholic church. They became the parents of five children, of whom three are now living. Frank X. Wolter is indebted to the public schools of Clayton county for his early educational training and as a youth he gained practical experience in connection with the business conducted by his father, so that he was well fortified when he finally took charge of the well equipped shoe store upon the retirement of his father. With this line of business enterprise he continued his active and successful identification for thirty years, and he has since lived retired, as previously stated in this context. He finds definite demand upon his attention, however, in according a general supervision to a





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valuable landed estate of seven hundred and seventy acres, in Clayton and Dubuque counties, and to his executive service as a director of the Guttenberg State Bank. He is a stockholder also in the canning factory at Guttenberg, and his civic loyalty has been shown by his efficient service as a member of the village council and as treasurer of the school board of Guttenberg, of which latter position he has been the incumbent since 1908. Both he and his wife are zealous communicants and liberal supporters of the Catholic church at Guttenberg, and they have long been active and influential in the affairs of the parish. On the 20th of January, 1891, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Wolter to Miss Augusta Eckart, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Henry and Dorothea (Benke) Eckart, who were born in Germany and who were pioneer settlers in Clayton county; they became the parents of twelve children, of whom seven are now living. Of the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Wolter the firstborn was Monica Sophia, who died at the age of eleven years; Cecilia D., who was graduated in the college at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, is a talented musician, remains at the parental home and is an efficient and popular teacher of music in her native city; Serena H., was graduated in the St. Mary's School at Guttenberg and is now attending Campion College, at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin; and Dorothy Catherine is now a student in the St. Mary's School.

**William F. Yearous** has been a resident of Highland township from the time of his birth to the present, has here exemplified progressiveness and enterprise as a substantial exponent of agricultural and live stock industry and is a popular scion of one of the honored pioneer families of Clayton county. He was born in Highland township on the 8th of September, 1867, and is a son of Charles and Catherine (Peters) Yearous, the former of whom was born in Baden, Germany and the latter of whom was born in Ohio, of German ancestry. Charles Yearous established his home on a pioneer farm in Highland township in the year 1854, and with the passing years he developed and improved a productive and valuable landed estate. He was one of the well known and highly esteemed pioneer citizens of Clayton county at the time of his death, which occurred January 7th, 1905, and his venerable widow resided near Fayette, Fayette county, until her death in August, 1916. Of their children the eldest is Aaron, who is now a resident of Wright county, this state; Jacob S., is a farmer in Fayette county and Jerome N., of Page county; Martha is the wife of Frank Kimpston, of Fayette county; Christian A., resides at Potosi, Grant county, Wisconsin; Charles now maintains his home in South Dakota; Ulysses G., is deceased; William F., of this review, was the next in order of birth; John W., is a resident of Fayette county; and Andrew is a prosperous farmer of Highland township. William F. Yearous supplemented the discipline of the district schools by the completion of an effective course in a business college at Fayette, and thereafter he continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-five years. He then rented eighty



acres of his father, from whom he later purchased one hundred and ten acres, in Section 9, Highland township, where he has since given his time and attention to well ordered operations along the lines of diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of live stock. He has made excellent improvements on the farm, including the erection of a modern residence of two stories, and he is known as one of the vigorous and resourceful farmers and influential and popular citizens of his native township. He has served in minor township offices, was secretary of the school board of his district for ten years, is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Ancient Order of Gleaners, in which last named order his wife likewise holds membership. On the 23d of October, 1892, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Yearous to Miss Blanche Chesley, who was born and reared in Volga township, this county, and who is a daughter of Norman and Lucy (Phillips) Chesley, the former a native of Canada and the latter of the state of Illinois. It is worthy of note that Mrs. Yearous' maternal grandmother, Mrs. Louisa Ann (Geer) Phillips, was a neighbor and friend of the historic and eccentric patriot, John Brown, concerning whom she had many interesting reminiscences, she having lived to the remarkable age of ninety-eight years. Mrs. Yearous was but one year old at the time of her father's death and she and her twin sister, Belle, were the youngest of a family of three children. The eldest child, Isadean, is the wife of Hiram R. Palmer, of Hawkeye, Fayette county, and Belle is the widow of Dr. James McGregor, her home being in the city of Denver, Colorado. For her second husband Mrs. Lucy (Phillips) Chesley wedded Frank Goodwin, and both are now deceased. They became the parents of five children, of whom the firstborn was Grace, now deceased; Rhoda is the wife of Edwin Howe, of Knoxville, Illinois; Ernest resides at Volga, Clayton county; Hattie is the wife of Robert Duff, of Highland township; and Louis is a successful teacher in the public schools of Watson, Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Yearous have but one child, Justin Paul, who was born September 17, 1896.

**Louis F. Zahrndt** is a native son of Germany; coming to America when but a child, undergoing with his parents and their family all the hardships of pioneering, benefiting by every opportunity offered by the new land, working indefatigably, exercising thrift and good business judgment, building for himself a reputation for thoroughgoing integrity and obtaining for himself a competency and high standing in the business life of his community; this is in brief the life story of Louis F. Zahrndt. He was born in Germany, April 18, 1847, the son of John D. and Wilhelmina (Clapman) Zahrndt. In 1853, when Louis was but six years of age, the parents decided to leave the land of their birth and with their little family made their way across the vast spaces of the Atlantic to build a home for themselves in free America. The journey to Iowa which state they had decided to make their home, was saddened by the death of Ida, their youngest child. They im-

mediately settled upon a farm and it may well be believed that there were no idle hands in the little household, and that all then learned the lessons of frugality and industry which served them so well in later life. The father not only pursued the clearing and cultivation of his farm, but during the winter months followed his trade as a cooper. It is well to know that these German pioneers lived to see their family grown to respected and self-supporting maturity, and to enjoy, themselves, the fruits of their early labors. Both died in this their adopted country in the enjoyment of the esteem and affection of all who knew them. The children of John D., and Wilhelmina Zahrndt were five, Herman and Lena who died in infancy; Louisa, now the widow of Henry Lange and living in Cox Creek township; Louis, the subject of this sketch and Ida, who died during the journey to America. Louis as a lad and youth enjoyed the privileges of the public school system and with willing hands assisted his father in the work on the farm. It was while he was with his father on the old homestead farm that he was married, December 5, 1869, to Miss Augusta Meyer also a native of Germany. By hard work and careful economy the young man accumulated sufficient capital to purchase property in the village of Mederville and there for eight years he engaged in the hotel business. He then sold his Mederville property and returned to agricultural pursuits. By this time his reputation for business ability and strict integrity had become recognized by all and he was appointed to the important position of superintendent of the County Asylum for the Insane, located at Elkader. This position which requires the qualifications of good management, kindliness, great patience and force of character was filled by Mr. Zahrndt most acceptably for a period of five years. Following this he was for four years a successful salesman and representative of the well known McCormick line of agricultural implements. Resigning this position he next engaged in the hotel business at Elkader and for eight years conducted a popular hostelry in the county seat town. Later he disposed of this business and purchased the Elkader Laundry which he is now conducting, having installed modern machinery and appliances and giving his patrons excellent satisfaction. Mr. Zahrndt has been honored by his fellow citizens with election to a number of township offices, he is an esteemed member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his church relations are with the Lutheran church. To Mr. and Mrs. Zahrndt five children were born all of whom are living and in the enjoyment of prosperity and the esteem of their community. The children of this worthy couple are Louis D., a prosperous farmer living in the vicinity of Edgewood; Ida, who resides with her parents at Elkader; Fred, who is engaged in farming the old family homestead and Martha, living in Elkader.

**Lewis A. Zearley** is senior member of the firm of Gifford & Zearley, which has a well appointed undertaking establishment in the village of Garber and which has high reputation in the effective and consistent handling of the funeral-directing business for which it provides the most approved facilities and service. Mr. Zearley

has been a resident of Clayton county, Iowa, from the time of his birth, which here occurred on the 28th of January, 1870. He is one of six surviving children of John H., and Mary (Hansel) Zearley, whose marriage was solemnized in this county, the father having been born in Pennsylvania and the mother in West Virginia and both having become residents of Clayton county in the early '50's. Here they passed the residue of their lives, and their names merit enduring place on the list of the honored pioneers of Clayton county. Lewis A. Zearley continued his studies in the public schools until he had duly availed himself of the advantages of the high school, and he remained at the parental home until he had attained to his legal majority, when he became a clerk in the mercantile establishment of C. Schmeff, at Garber. Later he devoted three years to successful work as a teacher in the district schools, and in 1911 he engaged in the undertaking business at Garber, where he has since remained one of the principals in the representative firm of Gifford & Zearley, and where also he has served as postmaster since September, 1914. By virtue of his incumbency of this official position it is virtually unnecessary to state he is one of the prominent and influential workers in the local ranks of the Democratic party, and his civic loyalty and stewardship have further been shown by his services as a member of the village council, as a member of the board of education, and as county coroner, of which last mentioned office he was in tenure for four years. He attends and supports the United Brethren church, of which his wife is an active member. In the year 1902 Mr. Zearley wedded Miss Alta Bowman, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of James and Rebecca (Hansel) Bowman, who are sterling pioneer citizens of the county, where they established their home many years ago, both being natives of the historic old state of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Zearley have two sons: Ray, who was born on July 28th, 1895, is now holding a position in connection with a business establishment in the city of Dubuque; and James, who was born June 12th, 1904, is still attending school.

**Charles Zittergruen** was a lad of about fourteen years when he accompanied his parents on their immigration from Germany to America, in 1869, and the family home was established in Clayton county, where within the intervening years he has gained through his own energy and ability a generous measure of success and prosperity, as indicated in his ownership of a large and valuable landed estate in this county. He now makes his home on a fine farm in close proximity to the village of Garber, and is giving special attention to dairy farming, with the best of modern equipment and facilities. Mr. Zittergruen was born in Pomerania, Germany, on the 9th of March, 1855, and there received his rudimentary education. He is a son of Carl and Regina (Wassmund) Zittergruen whose marriage was solemnized at Greiswald, Pomerania, about the year 1851, and who immigrated to America in 1869, as previously noted in this sketch. Soon after their arrival in the United States the parents came to Clayton county and the father purchased a farm near Garnavillo. In 1877 he sold this property and pur-



chased one hundred acres in Section 13, Volga township, where he continued his successful activities as a farmer and stock grower until his death, which occurred about the year 1899 and when he was seventy-four years of age. He was a zealous communicant of the Lutheran church, as is also his widow, who still resides in this county and who celebrated, in 1916, her eighty-seventh birthday anniversary. Of the six children the subject of this review is the eldest; Mary became the wife of Joseph Raefeldt and is now deceased, her death having occurred in Clayton county; and the other four children died prior to the family's immigration to America. In the schools of Clayton county Charles Zittergruen supplemented the educational discipline he had gained in those of his Fatherland, and he continued to be associated with his father in the work of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-six years, when he took unto himself a young wife and helpmeet and initiated his independent career as a farmer on a tract of eighty acres of land which he purchased at that time, in Volga township. The passing years crowned his labors with cumulative prosperity, and he manifested mature judgment in adding gradually to his landed estate until he now has five hundred and seventy-four acres. He remained on his original homestead until 1913, when he rented the place to three of his sons and removed to the present farm, which he purchased at that time, near the village of Garber, just south of the corporate limits. Here he has a well-improved farm of one hundred and thirty-four acres, in the operations of which he has the effective assistance of others of his sons, the place being given largely to dairy farming, as previously noted. Mr. Zittergruen is a director of the Garber Creamery and a member of the Elkport Commission Company. He has been known at all times for his progressiveness and public spirit, and has commanded the unqualified confidence and good will of the people of the county in which he has achieved large and worthy success through his own honest efforts. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and he has been called upon to serve in various offices of public trust. In past years he served several terms as township trustee and as road supervisor, and he is now the vigorous incumbent of the office of superintendent of roads in Volga township. He has given years of effective service as school director, and holds this office at the time of this writing. He and his wife are most zealous communicants of the Lutheran church, and he has served for many years past as treasurer of the church of this denomination at Elkport. On the 14th of March, 1883, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Zittergruen to Miss Lena Brandenburg, of Garnavillo, and they became the parents of ten sons and two daughters, of whom the first-born was John, who died in 1887, aged two years and five months; Herman is associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm; Charles, Emil and Louis have charge of the older homestead farm of their father; Lucina is the wife of Adam Thein; Romondo is the wife of Norman Nichols; Ernest died in infancy; and William, Edward, Arnold and Elmer remain at the parental

home and assist in the work of the farm. All of the children are well upholding the prestige of a name that has been signally honored in connection with the civic and industrial history of Clayton county.

**Gottlieb Zurcher** has been a resident of Clayton county since he was a lad of about seven years, and is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county. Here he was reared and educated and here he has long been a successful and progressive exponent of the great basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing, the while he has stood at all times as a loyal and public-spirited citizen who is well worthy of the unqualified esteem in which he is uniformly held. Mr. Zurcher was born in Baden, Germany, on the 23d of January, 1857, and is a son of George and Orzilla Zurcher, who continued their residence in that section of the great German Empire until 1864, when they immigrated to America and numbered themselves among the pioneer settlers of Clayton county, Iowa, where they passed the remainder of their lives and where the father reclaimed a productive farm, both he and his wife commanding the high regard of all who knew them, and their names meriting enduring place on the roll of the sterling pioneers of the county. Of their seven children five are yet living. Gottlieb Zurcher was reared to the sturdy activities of the pioneer farm and gained his early education in the common schools of the early period in Clayton county history. He continued his association with the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, and later he purchased this old homestead, comprising eighty-seven and three-fourths acres in Section 7, Farmersburg township, and twenty-four acres in Section 6 of the same township. He has made substantial improvements on his landed estate, including the erection of good buildings of modern type, and with the passing years the property has greatly increased in value, the while the farm has been kept up to the highest standard through his energetic and progressive policies and management. Mr. Zurcher has been one of the successful and influential citizens of Farmersburg township and has given his support to those measures and enterprises that have tended to advance the best interests of the community. He was one of the organizers and founders of the Farmersburg Creamery Company, of which he served as president five years and as a director for a period of four years thereafter. He is a director of the Farmersburg Savings Bank and is one of the substantial and wideawake men of the county in which he has maintained his home since childhood. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and his character and ability have given him such secure place in popular confidence and esteem that he has been called upon to serve in various local offices of public trust. Since 1910 he has been the efficient incumbent of the office of justice of the peace, and the year 1916 finds him in service also as township supervisor and as a member of the school board of his district, in which latter office he has served continuously since 1908. He is a stockholder in a cement manufacturing corporation at Farmers-

burg, in which village both he and his wife are zealous members of the Evangelical church. There also he is affiliated with the camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. In June, 1883, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Zurcher to Miss Christina Schiff, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of Louis and Mary (Meier) Schiff, who were born in Germany and who came to the United States in 1851. Later they became pioneer settlers in Clayton county, where they passed the residue of their lives and where Mr. Schiff was a prosperous farmer and honored citizen. Of their ten children seven are yet living. Mr. and Mrs. Zurcher became the parents of seven children, whose names are here entered in the respective order of birth: Herbert G., Amiel L., Ishmael, Benjamin L., George, a child that died in infancy, and Truman S. Of the children, Herbert, Ishmael and George are deceased.



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